

Thatcher says Britain shows economic way

Reagan is urged to follow UK example

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The Prime Minister last night gave her explanation for the worldwide stock market crash.

She told the world in general, and the United States in particular, to follow Britain's example in its efforts to end the slide.

Speaking at the Lord Mayor's banquet at Guildhall, Mrs Thatcher countered those who were warning that a cut in the US budget deficit would lead to a recession.

She said that when, in the difficult days of 1981, Britain had made a substantial cut in its own deficit, 364 economists had warned that it would deepen the recession.

Instead, that budget had proved the starting point for more than six years of economic growth and lower borrowing and had led to this year's nearly balanced budget.

The Prime Minister declared that President Reagan and Congress, who were still negotiating to secure further cuts in the budget deficit, should ignore the contradictory advice they were receiving from their own economists and heed Britain's real experience.

Mrs Thatcher listed the four underlying causes of the market collapse as the uncertainties stemming from the continuing US budget and trade deficits, the persistent trade surpluses of Japan and Germany, and the resulting fears of protectionism and returning inflation.

The way to counter them, she said, was to go back to the fundamentals Britain had been practising - sound money and low inflation. Prudent finance and living within your means were the answer, together with a removal of the

permanent trade balance in its favour. That could only be at the expense of others.

In today's world economy, said Mrs Thatcher, "it is simply not possible for any country to keep dry while the rest get wet".

Calling for action from others, the Prime Minister said: "Germany and Japan have, I believe, scope to expand their domestic economies without the risk of higher inflation."

"Japan and some newly industrialised countries like South Korea and Taiwan, both of which had considerable surpluses, could and should take further action to open their markets."

Markets confused: Stock markets and the dollar recovered strongly yesterday, after President Reagan's weekend expression of optimism on the outcome of the US budget talks (David Smith, Our Economics Correspondent, writes).

But the gains were cut sharply back late in the afternoon after further comments from Mr Reagan, which confused the markets and apparently contradicted his weekend address to the American people.

The FT-SE 100 index closed only 6.4 points up at 1,684.7, having shown a gain of 56.5 points at one stage during the day.

Mr Reagan said he was

hoping for a deal which would cut the deficit by at least \$23 billion (£13.5 billion) in the current year. He also said that "hiking tax rates is the wrong step" to cut the budget deficit.

His modest hopes for a cut in the deficit conflicted with the message from Washington over the weekend, which was that the deficit would be cut by about \$30 billion this year. Higher taxes were expected to form at least \$10 billion of the deficit-cutting package this year.

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Red Arrow jet hits houses but no one is hurt



The wreckage of one of the Hawk jets in the shattered house in Welton into which it crashed.

Planes in mid-air collision

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

Two Hawk jets of the RAF Red Arrow team collided during an aerobatic training flight over Lincolnshire yesterday. The planes crashed but both pilots ejected safely.

One of the jets struck houses, taking the roof off one, before crashing into the ground. A number of people on the ground were taken to hospital suffering from shock. The other jet crashed into a field.

Six aircraft from the RAF's display team were practising over an area five miles east of Scampton, the Red Arrows' base, when the leading single-seater Hawk and the second plane in line collided.

Eye witnesses saw two parachutes appear almost immediately as the two Hawks fell towards the ground, one of them on fire. The two pilots were recovered near the Lincolnshire village of Welton. One had a broken leg.

The owners of the houses badly damaged by the Hawk jets escaped injury. Mrs Gill Schooley, of Monce Close, Welton, was at work and her

Continued on page 24, col 3

Bahamas body is exhumed

By David Sapsted

A second post mortem will be held this afternoon on the body of Mrs Diana Carson in the wake of her husband's expulsion as British naval attaché in the Caribbean.

Dr Roger Ainsworth, a Home Office pathologist, will begin his examination at Portsmouth mortuary in an attempt to determine the cause of bruising to her head.

Mrs Carson, aged 48, drowned in the swimming pool of the couple's home in the Bahamas early in October. She was buried in Britain. Her husband, Captain Christopher Carson, was recalled by the Foreign Office earlier this month after the Bahamian Government ruled his presence "no longer acceptable". It said that Captain Carson would have faced charges in connection with the death had he remained there.

Hampshire police, which has been ordered by the Director of Public Prosecutions to carry out a full-scale investigation, said yesterday: "As a first step in this inquiry we have decided to exhumate the body".

IRA will drive Britain out, says Livingstone

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

Mr Ken Livingstone said yesterday that the Provisional IRA would win its struggle to drive Britain from Northern Ireland. He promised to redouble his efforts to maintain links with its political wing, Provisional Sinn Féin.

The left-wing Labour MP for Brent East said that Britain could either flood the province with troops to crush the Provisionals with acts of brutality unacceptable in a democracy, or negotiate a settlement as had occurred in "other colonial situations".

But Mr Livingstone warned that to continue with the present policy in northern Ireland which had resulted in twenty years of "bombings, mayhem and slaughter" and a long, slow bloodbath was the worst of all possible worlds. Asked whether politicians maintaining links with Provisional Sinn Féin encouraged the Provos to believe they would win, Mr Livingstone said: "I don't think anybody seriously believes they won't eventually get their own way. As with all other colonial situations we have been in-

olved in eventually Britain will go". He said that in almost all previous cases there had been violence and that as it continued Britain eventually got depressed and gave up.

Although Mr Livingstone condemned violence in the province including that caused by "loyalists" and the British state, his remarks will deeply embarrass the party leadership. Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, has condemned Provisional Sinn Féin's strategy.

Last night Mr Norman Tebbit, the former chairman of the Conservative party whose wife was severely injured in the IRA's Brighton bomb attack, accused Mr Livingstone of being unable to distinguish between a colony and part of the United Kingdom.

He added: "He seeks now to distinguish between the violence of the terrorists and the violence of the police in seeking to arrest terrorists. Mr Kinnock says the Labour party is a broad church, presumably he thinks it is

Two shots were heard, but it was not known whether it was gunfire or tear gas.

Rocks, broken bottles and tear gas canisters littered the sprawling campus as students tried to escape the violence. Many of them fled into the city and shoppers were startled to find that the police seemed intent on clearing every civilian off the streets.

"Today it seems the police are the ones rioting, not the students," one bystander said.

Four diplomatic missions, including the British High Commission, sent protests to the Kenyan Government over the police assault and the arrest of their journalists covering the rioting.

About 60 people dragged

brought General Hospital, Dr Geoffrey Wyatt, had found signs consistent with sexual abuse in 121 children out of 165 cases they had examined. Other consultants had diagnosed four cases.

Dr Higgs admitted that there were a number of areas where, in retrospect, she should have acted differently but she remained adamant that she acted entirely correctly in reaching her diagnoses of abuse.

She told Mrs Justice Butler-Sloss, the judge heading the inquiry, that criticisms she had been over-zealous in finding such cases were "quite untrue" and suggestions that she had been empire-building "ludicrous and preposterous".

The hearing continues today.

Full report and photograph, page 3

Riot police storm Nairobi university

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi

Riot police armed with batons, guns and tear gas rampaged through the University of Nairobi, beating students before the university was closed yesterday.

The university's Vice-Chancellor, Mr Philip Mbiti, ordered students to leave the campus within two hours after violent demonstrations over the arrest of student leaders.

Police moved in with tear gas on Sunday after students stoned cars on a Nairobi road in a protest against the arrest of seven newly-elected leaders of the students' union.

Journalists on the campus yesterday saw police bludgeoning their way through one dormitory, smashing down doors. They lashed out at students with batons, continuing to hit them when they fell to the floor. Blood poured from the head of one man forced from the building.

About 60 people dragged

Secrecy on Aids vital, House told

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Doctors carrying the Aids virus must be promised total confidentiality, a minister told the Commons yesterday.

Mr Antony Newton, Minister for Health, said: "If confidentiality is in question people who might otherwise be at risk will be less inclined to come forward."

There was no evidence of any patient having been infected with the Aids virus through his doctor, he said in response to a condemnation by Mr Robin Cook, the shadow Health Secretary, of "a sensational campaign by the tabloids to publish the names of doctors."

However, some Tory backbenchers led by Sir Gerard Vaughan, the former health minister, believe patients must be told if their doctors are carrying the virus.

£10m Aids trust, page 2

Was there more than one Christ?

THE MESSIANIC LEGACY

Startling evidence that the Gospels lied!

From the authors of

HOLY BLOOD AND THE HOLY GRAIL

The decade's most controversial bestseller

OUT NOW IN CORGI BESTSELLER

IN PART 2

Green light

Underwriting of the £770 million Eurotunnel equity issue was completed yesterday, leaving the route clear for the proposed share sale on November 27. Page 25

Rugby death

A French rugby player died when fighting broke out between the teams at the end of a match in Marseilles. Page 48

Portfolio Gold

● The £4,000 prize in The Times Portfolio Gold competition was won yesterday by a reader in Ilford, Essex. Details, page 3.
● Portfolio list, page 31.

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Doctor put her own daughter to sex abuse test

By Peter Davenport

Dr Marietta Higgs, the consultant paediatrician at the centre of the Cleveland child sexual abuse crisis, disclosed yesterday how she went home and examined some of her own children after diagnosing her first case in hospital.

The doctor, who has five children aged between five years and 17, was giving evidence at the inquiry set up by the Government.

She told how she had made a diagnosis on a young girl using the controversial medical technique of anal dilatation, a method she had first heard described only a month earlier at a conference. She examined some of her own children as a comparison.

Dr Higgs, who entered the witness

box on the fifty-fourth day of the hearing in Middlesbrough, said she had examined two sisters while at the Fleming Hospital in Newcastle upon Tyne in July 1986 and found one to have signs of sexual abuse.

"I went home and enlisted the help of my youngest children to see if I could elicit it on their bottoms but it didn't happen. It was a striking finding."

She asked a woman police doctor, Dr Ellis Fraser, to examine one of the sisters but she could find no abnormal findings. But when Dr Higgs examined her again the following morning she again found signs consistent with sexual abuse.

Dr Higgs was asked by her counsel, Mr Robert Nelson, QC, to explain the

different findings. "My answer is that the child was probably abused in hospital although I know it sounds preposterous."

She said that the layout of wards afforded privacy, families were given free access to their children and abusers often had a compulsive disorder.

Dr Higgs's first public explanation of her central role in the crisis began when she sat before the microphone in the witness box in the council chamber at Middlesbrough Town Hall where the inquiry has been in session since August.

The inquiry was told that since January Dr Higgs and her fellow consultant paediatrician at Middles-

NEWS SUMMARY

Post strike ballot result 'close'

The result of the strike ballot which could lead to the disruption of Christmas mail will be made known today. Officials of the Union of Communication Workers say there has been a large return in the ballot. That normally indicates a yes vote but some feel that the result will be close.

Talks between representatives of the 165,000 postal workers and Post Office managers, which on Friday laid the ground rules for future discussions, continued yesterday.

The union executive has recommended its members vote for industrial action over a demand for a 40-hour working week. It claims postmen and women work a 43-hour week but that includes meal breaks.

The Post Office has offered a reduction of an hour a week, if it is financed by increased productivity. However, that has been rejected.

The union has arranged a special delegate conference in Bournemouth on Saturday to decide action in the light of today's ballot decision.

Fears over Libel Princess damages

Scotland Yard is reviewing security surrounding the Princess of Wales to shield her from alleged prying press photographers.

The study by senior officers in the Yard's royal protection squad comes after an incident when the Princess reportedly wept and begged a photographer to hand over his film as she left a private dinner party.

The Princess is said to be distressed by the constant intrusions into her private life. The police are equally alarmed at the apparent ease with which photographers get so close to her.

An American businessman is to donate to charity "substantial" undisclosed libel damages paid to him by *The Daily Telegraph*.

Mr David Eady, QC, counsel for Mr. Meadham Riddis, told the High Court in London yesterday that the *Telegraph* had also unreservedly withdrawn an allegation against Mr Riddis and agreed to pay his costs.

On October 17 last year, the newspaper falsely accused Mr Riddis of receiving money alleged to have been stolen by Guinness plc.

Keith Best to appeal

Keith Best, aged 38, the former Conservative MP convicted of illegally trying to obtain British Telecom shares through multiple applications, is to appeal against conviction. The appeal is unlikely to be heard before Christmas.

Last month the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, and two other judges quashed a four-month jail sentence on the barrister after he appealed against sentence. They substituted a £4,500 fine for the £3,000 one originally imposed at Southwark Crown Court.

No decision will be taken by the Bar's professional conduct committee on whether it should refer Best's case to a disciplinary tribunal until after the appeal. The tribunal can disbar, suspend, fine or reprimand barristers.

Coren for Listener

Mr Alan Coren is to be the new editor of *The Listener* magazine. The BBC and ITV joint interviewing panel made discreet approaches to Mr Coren last week despite receiving more than 40 applicants for the job.

Mr Coren, currently editor of *Punch*, said last night: "It was suggested I might like to apply. I was not one of the original applicants." He will take up his new post at the beginning of February.

After agreement between the BBC and the Independent Television Association, *The Listener* is to be jointly funded.

Tea break halts train

British Rail is considering disciplining a guard who delayed his train for about 20 minutes at Southampton station to travel six miles for a cup of tea. The guard, who has not been named, was protesting about the condition of a mess room and because a kettle was not working during his tea break.

He was to have joined a Salisbury-Portsmouth train at Southampton, but a Southern Region spokesman said he went by train to Eastleigh station to have his tea, then returned, while his train waited at Southampton.

£10m Aids trust for haemophiliacs

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The government announced an unprecedented *ex-gratia* payment of £10 million yesterday to 1,200 haemophiliacs infected with the Aids virus through contaminated NHS blood products. Opposition MPs responded that it was "short-changing" the victims.

Emphasizing that the Government did not accept liability for the haemophiliacs' plight and was not opening the door to similar claims in the future, Mr Anthony Newton, Minister for Health, told the Commons that the payment was "in recognition of a special and unique combination of circumstances".

The announcement represents a significant concession by the Government and comes after a campaign of increasing pressure by the Haemophilia Society and large numbers of MPs.

The society will use the grant to form a trust fund and will decide how best to distribute the money between the victims and the dependants of the 49 who have already died.

It will receive advice and assistance in this from the Department of Health. Mr Newton insisted that £10 million was an "adequate and proper sum", and said that the society would have the flexibility to make greater or lesser payments to victims according to need.

However, Labour MPs led by Mr Robin Cook, Opposition spokesman on health, said that the Government was "short-changing" the haemophiliacs. The £10 million represented little more than £8,000 a head, he said.

The society had sought a weekly benefit to cover estimated additional costs such as heating, laundry and food of £65 a week, a fund in recognition of the disaster, an insurance scheme to protect victims' homes, and provision for dependants.

Labour MPs also unsuccessfully sought an assurance from Mr Newton that individual payments would not be taxed or lessened entitlement to supplementary benefit.

Parliament, page 4

Way sought for universities to patent inventions

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

The Government may help universities retain ownership of inventions made by their scientists and to obtain full payment from companies which want to exploit the patents. The purpose is to enable universities to raise money for research that the bulk of industry is otherwise reluctant to support.

The attraction of devising a standard format of patent protection covering all universities, and based on a scheme under discussion in the

United States, was outlined yesterday by Mr John Fairclough, the Government's chief scientific adviser.

Mr Fairclough, who is on secondment from IBM for three years, was speaking at a conference on the exploitation of academic research called by the Patent Office, industry and the research councils, in London.

However, the idea of universities retaining ownership of intellectual property rights conflicts with the policies of many large companies, and the gulf between industry

and the universities emerged yesterday.

Professor John Cadogan, director of research for British Petroleum, said that, while BP was perhaps the largest industrial sponsor of university research, it was against a company's interest for ownership to remain in other hands.

BP spends £260 million a year in its own laboratories on applied research. Another £40 million goes on basic science, with a large proportion on collaborative research in universities and on post-graduate studentships.

Professor Cadogan said that industry lived by exploitation. It was not the university's job. For competitive reasons, industry wanted collaboration that gave a company ownership of inventions, for which it would pay for the research and a proportion of any profits from successful exploitation.

He described the universities as the "early warning radar of research", which was at the start of the chain leading to innovation, but he was anxious about the future.

Both he and Mr Fairclough

indicated that a redistribution was needed of the spending of government money for basic research, rather than new money.

Professor Cadogan said that the £28.5 million, which went on the core science work in chemistry, physics, biology and mathematics, was inadequate.

It represented less than 10 per cent of the money available for basic science research. Again, both he and Mr Fairclough agreed that there was not enough flexibility

in the so-called "flexible money" which, in principle, should be switched to key areas of research when new advances occurred.

Mr Fairclough gave an insight into the Prime Minister's attitude towards research. He said she would support a university department that co-operated with a company whose chairman could see the commercial potential for the research. Under those circumstances the Prime Minister would be prepared to lend government support to that university department.

Scandinavia line stakes claim for BCal link-up

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

SAS, the Scandinavian airline, is favourite to take a stake in British Caledonian should the proposed merger with British Airways fall through.

Negotiations have been going on between the two for some months and unless Lord King of Warratney, chairman of BA, is prepared to offer about £200 million within two weeks Sir Adam Thomson, BCal chairman, is determined to walk away from the talks and discuss detailed terms with SAS.

Such a move could, however, lead to a legal and constitutional problem. One interpretation of government rules indicates that no foreign airline can have a stake larger than 17 per cent in a British company without having its involvement referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Another interpretation is that they can hold a 49 per cent stake provided there is continued British "control". Neither view has been formally tested and should BCal seek a link with SAS it is almost certain to lead to a political and legal issue.

Mr Jan Carlzon, the dynamic president of SAS, confirmed yesterday that he would be interested in taking a stake in the ailing Gatwick-based airline but said that he would wait first to see the outcome of the negotiations with BA.

"We have made no secret of the fact that we would like to find alliances with other airlines on all four continents we serve", Mr Carlzon said.

British Airways, which has been angered by what it regards as Sir Adam's unwelcome tactics in revealing publicly the amount of money he is expecting to get for his airline, ordered a ban yesterday on all further public statements about the talks. British Caledonian agreed to follow the lead.

SAS would form a perfect "match" with BCal provided

it was given government approval to go ahead with the link-up. Under Mr Carlzon it has become the most efficient and "punctual" airline in Europe. But it has a small natural "catchment" area of 17 million people who live in Scandinavia.

It is seeking two or three main international "hub" airports which would feed local traffic on to long-haul services.

Gatwick, at which it is the largest foreign operator, would be an ideal airport from which to mount such an operation with the existing BCal services feeding passengers from Britain and Europe onto SAS long-haul routes and SAS in turn scheduling its local flights to link up with BCal's profitable intercontinental services.

SAS was formed in 1946 by linking the state-owned airlines of Denmark, Norway and Sweden. It has a network spanning 90 cities in 40 countries with 100 aircraft and 20,000 employees.

It is one of the most profitable airlines in Europe, having been turned round from a loss to a huge profit within five years by concentrating on the business class of service.

Although it has a highly successful European network it is seeking a big expansion of its intercontinental capabilities to take on the giant US "mega carriers" and to position itself for the forthcoming free market within Europe scheduled for 1992.

BCal is also talking to KLM, Alitalia and Air France, although in every case there are far more problems than with SAS.

Should talks with Sabena of Belgium, the Finnish national airline, Finnair, and Austrian Airlines also succeed, the new merged European giant would be as big and as powerful as British Airways and able to provide an effective European-based second force airline. Comment, page 27



Brian Cox, named best actor of 1987 by the British Theatre Association yesterday for three Shakespearean roles, and Judi Dench, who won the best actress award for her performance in *Anthony and Cleopatra*.

Labour drops hard-left MP in select committee dispute

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Labour's beleaguered whips have for the second time in a month been forced into an embarrassing retreat on plans to put left-wing MPs into key positions on Commons select committees.

In the face of Conservative threats to flout the unwritten rules of the committee system, the Labour whips have abandoned an attempt to give Mrs Audrey Wise the high-profile chairmanship of the important select committee on social services.

Mrs Wise is a member of the hard-left Campaign group, who returned only recently to the Commons after an eight-year break.

With another Labour MP having just been switched from social services to the public accounts committee, the way is clear for the notoriously independent Mr Frank Field, easily Labour's best qualified candidate, to join the committee. He would assume what both government and opposition whips have agreed should be a Labour chairmanship.

MPs believe a key reason why Mrs Wise was nominated

was to keep Mr Field, no favourite of his whips, away from the chair.

Earlier this month Mr Derek Foster, Labour's Chief Whip, was forced to drop plans to nominate an active member of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament for the powerful select committee on defence after protests from the Conservatives and threats of resignation by two multi-lateral Labour MPs already on the committee.

Instead he nominated two moderate MPs who were CND members in little more than name.

In the case of the social services committee, several senior Conservative members, who have a majority on the committee, had privately told their whips that they would rebel if asked to support Mrs Wise for the chairmanship.

One of them, Mr Nicholas Winterton, who has served on the committee since it was set up in 1979, blocked the formation of any of the departmental select committees last week in protest at having Mrs

Wise "foisted" on the committee.

He had threatened to continue doing so until the committees were allowed to interfere from the whips.

Labour's retreat over Mrs Wise would appear to remove one of the few remaining obstacles to the reconstitution of the committees.

The Ulster Unionists are still demanding an extra place or two on the committees, including representation on the defence committee.

The government and opposition whips have yet to agree on whether the Conservatives should have an outright majority or simply the most members on the Scottish affairs committee after their disastrous election performance north of the border.

However on the Scottish issue at least Labour is not threatening to block formation of the other committees until the dispute is settled.

The Labour Party has drawn up a report on the likely shape of Britain in the 1990s to help in the formation of policies for the next election.

Doctors' hospital crisis warning

By Craig Seton

More than 200 hospital consultants in Birmingham have warned health authorities that medical care in the city is "reeling" under the strain of service cuts.

Their anxiety is expressed in a letter sent to the West Midlands Regional Health Authority and to Mr John Moore, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Services.

The situation will be discussed when Sir James Ackers, the chairman of the authority, meets Mr Moore today.

The 200 consultants, about a third of those working in Birmingham, signed the letter after it was drafted by Dr Kenneth Taylor, a consultant physician at the city's Dudley Road hospital. The letter says that morale among doctors is at "an all-time low" because of bed cuts to save money.

Dr Taylor said yesterday that he feared the city's hospitals would not be able to cope with the increased number of patients that could be expected in winter.

"We have reached the point where there is no more slack. The effects of an influenza epidemic could be nothing short of disastrous", he said.

The letter says the Government must be persuaded that the health service needs an increase in funding. "It is naive for ministers to talk of more patients being treated when they make no mention of those left untreated", it says.

Sir James said last night: "The authority has been aware for some time of the growing pressure faced by our consultant colleagues in the whole region, not just in Birmingham".

Paintings sale Bill criticized

By Lynda Mordin

Arts Correspondent

Three important art institutions, the National Gallery, Tate Gallery and the National Portrait Gallery, last night expressed alarm at the determination of Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, to go ahead with a Bill allowing them to sell unwanted paintings.

Other organizations and leading individuals in the arts world also opposed Mr Luce's intention to give limited powers to dispose of paintings in the draft Museums and Galleries (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill which is expected to go through Parliament next year.

Trustees at the three galleries said they would not use such a power, but feared that it would set an unfortunate precedent.

A committee of trustees at the Tate will today interview four short-listed candidates for the job of director. They are Norman Rosenthal, exhibition secretary at the Royal Academy of Arts; Nick Serota, director of the Whitechapel Gallery; Julian Spalding, director of the City Art Gallery, Manchester; and John Elderfield, curator of drawings at New York's Museum of Modern Art.

By the way, the Times crosses Australia \$20; Belgium 8 Frs 50c; Canada \$2.75; Denmark 12.00; France 9.00; Germany 10.00; Greece 12.00; Holland 10.00; Italy 1.200; Japan 1.200; Korea 1.200; Luxembourg 1.200; Malaysia 1.200; Mexico 1.200; New Zealand 1.200; Norway 1.200; Pakistan 1.200; Portugal 1.200; Singapore 1.200; Spain 1.200; Sweden 1.200; Switzerland 1.200; Taiwan 1.200; Thailand 1.200; USA \$2.00; Yugoslavia 1.000.

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PARLIAMENT

Government gift of £10m to help haemophiliacs

The Government is to make a grant of £10 million to help the Haemophilia Society set up a trust fund to help haemophiliacs infected with the Aids virus as a result of treatment with infected blood products.

The announcement was made by Mr Tony Newton, Minister of Health, in the absence through illness of Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services.

He said that the position under successive governments had been that, while compensation might be sought through the courts if there was a question of negligence, there was no state scheme of "no-fault" compensation for those damaged by medical treatment.

"The Haemophilia Society have, however, put to us a powerful case that the position of haemophiliacs is wholly exceptional and should be treated as such (cheers).

"Their employment prospects and insurance status were already affected by the haemophilia itself. The treatment that led to their infection was designed to help them to live as near a normal life as possible.

"The hereditary nature of haemophilia can, and in some cases does, mean that more than one member of the same family may be affected."

The Government, having considered all the circumstances, had concluded that it would be right to recognize the unique position of haemophiliacs infected with the virus.

HEALTH

The Government would therefore make an ex-gratia grant of £10 million to the Haemophilia Society to enable it to set up a special trust fund.

The society would be able to make payments to affected individuals and families throughout the United Kingdom, and to do so with greater flexibility than could be achieved in any other way.

The society had warmly welcomed the proposal and had asked for advice and assistance in administering the fund, which the Department of Health and Social Services had agreed to arrange.

No sum of money could compensate for the prejudice against the children of haemophiliacs infected with Aids virus because they had been treated with infected blood products, Mr Robin Cook, chief Opposition spokesman on health and social security, said after Mr Newton had made the announcement of a new fund to help them.

Mr Cook said that any MP who had attended the lobby held by infected haemophiliacs in October, and had witnessed their courage and restraint, would welcome the statement that the Government had a duty to help them.

The minister's conversion was more than welcome as it reversed the position he had held six months ago, when the Government had no such duty.

Having conceded that principle, he must not now short-change them.

How had the minister costed

the fund and come up with £10 million, or was it a convenient round figure?

"It represents just over £8,000 for every infected person and is less than half the capital sum paid in cases of vaccine damage."

Was he satisfied that such a modest sum would meet the most pressing need, for families to keep a roof over their heads, by clearing a mortgage?

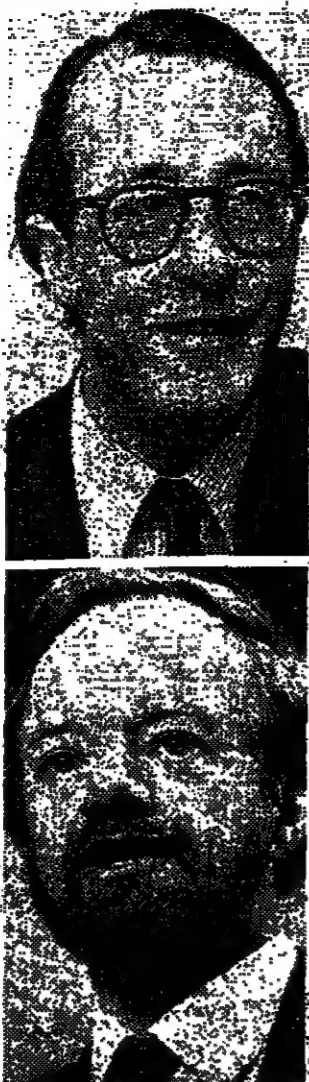
He asked for an undertaking that the Government, with the society, would review the size of the fund. It was unfair to put the society in the false position of being responsible for a scheme but not having sufficient resources.

He asked Mr Newton to condemn "the ill informed discrimination" against haemophiliacs, some of whom had lost jobs, some had lost private tenancies and some had children who were encountering prejudice at school. No sum could compensate for such prejudice.

The DHSS chief medical officer had said there was no recorded case of Aids being transmitted from doctor to patient.

"Will he join me in regretting the latest campaign by the tabloids, publicly to name a doctor and thus force public anxiety. That can only encourage that very discrimination against those who are HIV antibody positive, whether haemophiliac or not."

Mr Newton said that his earlier comments had been about the difficulty of a compensation scheme. This was not one. It was recognition of a special and unique combination of circumstances which he was glad to make.



Mr Tony Newton (right), who made the £10 million grant announcement, with (top left) Mr Robert Rhodes James and Mr Robin Cook who spoke after his statement.

"As to the sum of £10 million, we arrived at a broad estimate of a sum which would give significant help to the affected group."

One reason for not having a regulated scheme was that that would not recognize the different circumstances of those affected, whether a single man, or a man with children, or with a grown family. They had thus arrived at this flexible scheme.

The £10 million would be made available at once. The trust would thus have the advantage of income from the capital, which would significantly increase the resources available to it.

"I wish to associate myself with Mr Cook's remarks about discrimination against haemophiliacs and their children wherever and whenever it may occur, on account of infection with the virus."

About doctors and the chief medical officer's remarks over the weekend and on earlier occasions, it is my view that maintenance of confidentiality in these matters is essential to the effective safeguarding of the public because, if confidentiality is in question, people otherwise at risk will be less inclined to come forward and take advice which will minimize that risk."

Mr Robert Rhodes James (Cambridge, C) said that the campaign for this payment by backbench MPs from all parties showed the House of Commons at its best.

They were all deeply moved by the tragedy affecting wholly innocent victims.

"It might be necessary for us to approach the minister again to assist this finite number of victims in the knowledge that he will once again respond sympathetically."

Mr Newton: I am grateful for his remarks and I note his final observations.

Conservation 'the priority on Broads Bill'

HOUSE OF LORDS

Peers on all sides welcomed the Government's Bill setting up a statutory authority to manage the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads. They stated, however, that conservation of the area was the first priority and needed greater emphasis in the Bill.

Moving the second reading Lord Belstead, Minister of State, Department of Environment, said that over the 11 square miles of broadland there were now 250,000 visitors a year and more than 12,000 boats.

While bringing great benefits to the local economy, they also brought problems. The result had been a deterioration of the water quality and of that of surrounding land.

There were 40 years of failed endeavour behind the Bill. It would be a tragedy for the Broads if it failed. Conservation must be the ultimate objective, but it was important also to do justice to the other legitimate interests, such as agriculture, tourism, leisure and sporting activities.

The Government had throughout adopted an even-handed approach in achieving a balance between the various interests.

The new authority would have all the powers and duties of a national parks authority, adapted for the special circumstances.

The whole thrust of the Bill is the conservation of the Broads. It required the new authority to produce a management plan.

Lady Nicol, for the Opposition, said that, although her party welcomed the Bill, the conservation interests must not be outnumbered on the new authority. For instance the Nature Conservancy Council should have the same representation as the Countryside Commission.

She was also concerned that all navigation issues would be

dealt with by a navigation committee which did not include conservationists.

The Council for the Protection of Rural England was concerned that final decisions on land drainage would go to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food without reference to the Department of the Environment.

She did not believe that boating enthusiasts will wish to sail through a dead water in a dead landscape.

Lord Hunt (SDP) said that the Bill was good news for everyone who cared for the conservation of the landscape.

If the recommendations of the committees that had investigated the Broads in the 1940s had been followed, then the Broads would not face its present problems.

The latest figures for 1986, disclosed that 650,000 people visited the Broads and there were 12,000 boats.

The conflict of interests made a compelling case for a clearer priority to be established for conservation. It was all very well to speak of seeking an even-handed approach; however, a priority must be given to conservation and the Bill as drafted did not do that.

Lord Bexton of Ailes (C) said that the Bill was flawed and irrational in seeking to equate conservation with tourism and navigation.

He had known the Broads intimately for 60 years and if conservation did not have priority then disaster would follow. Until the 1950s, the water had been clear. Now it was like tomato soup, mainly because of drainage.

The Bill was given an unopposed second reading.

Horns of a theological dilemma

Mr Michael Allison (Selby, C) confessed that he was in danger of being impaled on the horns of a theological dilemma when asked as representative of the Church Commissioners whether the commissioners insured their property against "acts of God".

The poster was raised in Commons questions by Mr Sydney Chapman (Chipping Barnet, C) who asked about the recent hurricane.

Mr Allison said that the storm had caused about £660,000 worth of damage.

Mr Chapman: Can he tell the House if the Church Commissioners insure their property against acts of God? If not, does that not indicate a certain lack of financial prudence? If they do, does that not indicate a certain lack of faith?

Mr Allison: The members of the Church Commissioners are men and women of robust faith.

'Uncivilized' low flying must halt now, Labour MP says

WALES

The Government should call a halt to the "uncivilized" low-flying exercises over Wales, a Labour spokesman said at question time.

Mr Roy Hughes said that not only livestock but also people were deeply disturbed by supersonic sorties and the terrible accidents that sometimes occurred with the loss of pilots, aircraft and valuable jet aircraft.

"It is time for the Government to take heed of the many protests received and to call a halt to these uncivilized exercises."

Mr Wyn Roberts, Minister of State, Welsh Office, said that the department was responsible for many things, but not, for defence.

Mr Richard Lacey (Brecon and Radnor, L) had asked Mr Roberts to make urgent representations to the Secretary of State for Defence (Mr George

Younger) to ban all low flying at 100ft throughout Wales because it was causing much suffering to people and animals.

He should see that farmers whose beef cows aborted, as frequently happened, were fully compensated to the level of compensation paid for the equivalent of a nine-month beef calf.

Mr Roberts said that compensation claims should be submitted to the claims commission because a procedure had been agreed between it, the agriculture ministries, and the farmers' unions.

"I cannot hold out any promise of a ban on low flying as that form of training is vital."

Sir Anthony Meyer (North

West Gwent, C): No one likes aircraft screaming overhead, but there is some consolation in being able to look up and see that there are no red stars on their wings.

Mr Roberts: Yes. Whenever people complain to me, I ask: "Were they hurt?"

Mr Dafydd Iwan (Meirionnydd Nant Conwy, Pl C): At least one in five are not hurt unless one regards the United States as part of the Welsh Department.

Will he therefore take seriously the level of complaints from the farming community, in view of the numbers of flights and noise of aircraft, and support the call for a review of low-flying procedure, as it is 10 years since the last.

Mr Roberts: I am sure that the Secretary of State for Defence is well aware of the views of farmers and of Mr Thomas.

Language must have its place

The Government believes that the teaching of the Welsh language should have its place in the school curriculum, Mr Wyn Roberts, Minister of State for Wales, told MPs during questions.

He said that where Welsh was the medium of teaching, then it would be included in the core curriculum.

He expected to publish soon a statement of policy on the National Curriculum in Wales that would embody the Government's response to the consultation exercise.

Mr Christopher Butler (Warrington South, C) said that forcing the language on people would not be in the best interests of Welsh.

Mr Roberts replied that about 80 per cent of children were not taught in Welsh.

Hurd says he hopes there is consensus on immigration

HOME OFFICE

The Home Secretary said during a debate on the Immigration Bill that he hoped that there was broad political consensus that the days of unrestricted primary immigration were over.

Moving the second reading of the Bill, Mr Douglas Hurd said that it amended the 1971 Act while leaving it as the foundation of Britain's system of immigration control.

That Act had been introduced in the belief that there was a limit to which a society could accept large numbers of people from different cultures without unacceptable social tensions.

That remained the Government's view. It was not an anti-immigrant view but a realistic one.

It was not in the interests of the ethnic minorities themselves if there was a prospect of further mass inward movement

because that prospect could only increase social tensions, particularly in the inner cities. Firm immigration control was essential if they were to foster good community relations.

Between 1979 and 1985, the number of people coming to Britain for settlement fell from 70,000 to 55,000.

The figure for 1986, when there were special factors after changes in the rules and practices, was even lower at 47,000.

He hoped that there was a broad political consensus that the days of unrestricted primary immigration were over.

This Bill gave further evidence of the Government's determination to carry through

its commitment to firm but fair immigration controls into practice.

Immigration control was under considerable pressure and there were also pressures arising from the increasing number of asylum applicants.

In responding to these pressures, they needed to be able to react quickly and effectively and they had done so.

They would have to go on watching carefully all aspects of the immigration control arrangements to ensure that they were efficient and that unacceptable pressures did not pile up.

Royal Assent

Royal Assent was given to the National Provident Institution Act and the Bexley London Borough Council Act.



Lord Rippon of Hexham (left), head of a parliamentary delegation visiting Tokyo, talking yesterday with an interpreter's help to Mr Noboru Takeshita, the Japanese Prime Minister.

Ministers planning 'road shows' for inner cities

By Robin Oakley and Martin Fletcher

Ministers are planning a series of "Action for Cities" road shows, which will tour the country seeking to stimulate investment in the inner cities and to publicize what Government help is available to developers and local authorities.

Meanwhile, a committee of backbench Tories has been formed to stimulate further effort.

Ministers are anxious to win a new degree of co-operation from local councils, including those controlled by Labour, and they believe that political realities in the wake of the general election will bring more of them "on board" in inner-city projects.

The road shows will be coordinated by the regional directors of the various government

departments involved in inner-city initiatives, including the Department of the Environment, the Department of Trade and Industry, the Department of Employment and others.

They will involve council leaders and officials, education authorities, developers and organizations such as Business in the Community.

Mr David Tripper, the inner cities minister at the Department of the Environment, said yesterday: "I have come to the conclusion that it is no good us trying to solve these problems purely in Westminster and Whitehall."

"We have to go into the inner cities with presentations which will show what we intend to do. I hope to excite the interest of developers and potential investors to invest in these difficult areas."

"I am particularly interested in getting investors from the South to realize the potential which lies in the inner cities and in urban areas in the Midlands and the North."

Mr Tripper emphasized the Government's wish to involve local authorities in the inner-city initiatives, saying: "We are obviously anxious to encourage partnership between ourselves, local government and the private sector."

The backbench Conservative MPs' committee is intended to inject radical ideas into the Government's inner-city initiative.

The move coincides with news that the Prime Minister is considering the possibility of drawing up a White Paper setting out a coherent set of inner-city policies that would quell growing criticism that the

initiative lacks clear leadership and direction.

The backbench Urban and Inner Cities Committee, is to be chaired by Mr Anthony Steen, MP for South Hants and before that the last Tory MP in Liverpool, who fears that the Government is "going down the same track as in the past and this won't produce results."

Committee members are opposed to pumping large amounts of public money into the inner cities. They believe that existing funds should be better targeted, less towards improving the outward appearance of the blighted areas and more towards encouraging inner-city residents to help themselves.

They believe that there should be fewer civil servants and quangos involved, but more co-ordination between central gov-

ernment, local authorities, banks, the private sector and the residents themselves.

They intend to press for the privatization of an estimated 500,000 acres of empty land that is owned by public bodies in urban areas, and are exploring the idea of offering public bodies the incentive of shares in the land.

Committee members want more relaxed zoning and planning regulations to enable more inner-city residents to set themselves up in business, and greater availability of cheap money. They want more done more quickly to break up the huge council estates.

Other officers on the committee include Mr Richard Alexander, Mr David Gilroy Bevan, Mr John Bows, and Mr Andrew Hargreaves.

Battle opens for a barrier-free EEC

A campaign to "sell" the benefits of a barrier-free EEC to British industry is being spearheaded by a task force of Conservative European MPs.

They want to help businessmen to make full use of the EEC's plans to remove all restrictions on the movement of goods, services and people by 1992.

The campaign has won the backing of the Confederation of British Industry and the Institute of Directors.

They are working closely with the Tory MEPs under the chairmanship of their Strasbourg leader, Mr Christopher Proul, European MP for Shropshire and Stafford.

A special "1992 Club" has been set up for businessmen to receive progress reports on how the reforms will affect them.

Mr James Elles, European MP for Oxford and Buckinghamshire, said the campaign was badly needed to ensure that British businessmen "did not miss out."

"A survey shows that 77 per cent of French management know all about 1992 through a French Government campaign, but so far only 5 per cent of British management are informed," he said.

"We are facing the most exciting adventure we have had in post-war Britain for young people, for business life, in fact for everyone."

"People have to understand what it will mean to have a Europe without frontiers by 1992."

The reforms intend to create greater travel freedom, lower air fares, straightforward health care arrangements for Britons on the Continent, the freedom to set up as a doctor, dentist, architect or other professional anywhere in the Community with mutual recognition of qualifications, and trouble-free universal guarantees on goods bought abroad.

However, some changes, such as the plans to end value-added tax zero-rating on food and children's clothes, may not meet with much approval.

Mr Elles said: "Public attitudes have to be changed. The whole question of opening up the frontiers amounts to a positive balance sheet for Britain."

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Scheme for blank-tape levy

Copyright Bill

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

Peers will attempt to force the Government to impose a levy on blank audio and video tapes during the passage of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Bill 1992.

Ministers stopped short of including the contentious levy in the Bill, although it was in the White Paper, on the ground that it would be "rough justice".

They were sensitive to accusations that they were bringing in a new tax and raising prices.

However, peers from all sides strongly condemned its omission from the 190-page Bill during the second reading debate last week and urged the Government to think again.

The idea is for the copyright owners, such as pop groups, to receive a financial benefit from those who copy their work on to blank tapes.

Lord Willis, the playwright of *Dixon of Dock Green*, argued: "Whatever the BBC puts on, whatever ITV puts on, you can put it on home tapes and steal it without paying a penny."

Lord Morton of Shuna, for the Opposition, said: "Certainly the omission of this provision may save some time in committee."

"But it is difficult to see that it is right to leave things as they are, where the owner of the

copyright in a sound recording does not have or appear to have the same protection and return as the owner of copyright in a printed work and where the private taping of records and tapes, which does go on, is apparently to remain illegal but unenforceable."

Peers have also criticized much of the drafting of the Bill and are preparing to tackle the clauses dealing with "moral rights" of intellectual property.

The Arts Council has attacked the proposals as unworkable and likely to hamper artists rather than help them.

One of the most disputed clauses requires a librarian to be satisfied that someone does not want to take a photocopy of a printed article for "commercial research". To help the librarian, licensing agencies would be set up to collect royalties from commercial researchers.

Lord Eccles, a former Conservative minister, said: "This is a new obstacle to commercial research. It would not only handicap industry, but the methods proposed to operate the restriction would not work in the most sophisticated libraries—and I can certainly say that of the British Library, which issues several million copies of this kind every year."

The clause would mean a doctor stopping a colleague from using his article until a royalty had been paid, he said.

Labour and Alliance peers are set to prevent the Government from making fraudulent use of a trade mark liable to up to 10 years' imprisonment. They are seeking to replace the criminal penalties with civil remedies.

Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, argued: "I want to give a warning in the clearest possible terms to the cheats, those who steal other people's property and ruin on the backs of the good names of reputable businesses, will get no sympathy from us."

An amendment is also likely to be tabled to give photographers the same protection as authors, whose work is covered by copyright for 50 years after their death.

The Bill aims to make the system of applying for patents simpler and cheaper. But the Government has not yet disclosed details of its plan to set up a patent court.

The Government has laid aside four days for the committee stage, which will go through the Bill clause by clause.

Tory MP attacks education reforms

Some of the Government's planned education reforms are not up to the mark, one of its own MPs said yesterday.

Mr Andrew Rowe, a backbencher on the "left" side of the Tory Party, delivered his criticism in a pamphlet examining the radical measures proposed by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, and due to be outlined in a Bill on Friday.

He said that there was a need for change and he was behind the main thrust of what was being suggested. But he was unhappy with some details of the reforms, describing one aspect as "unjustifiable" and another as a "bad idea" and saying of a third that it "will not do."

Mr Rowe, MP for Mid-Kent and governor of a further education college, said he was unhappy with the plan to allow schools to opt out of local education authority control if a majority of parents voted to do so. "This will not do," he said.

By the time the Department of Education and Science has stamped an "opt-out" decision, many parents will have taken part in the vote and will have children at the school concerned.

He added that ethnic minorities might take advantage of the opt-out scheme and begin steering



ing a school to reflect their values.

Mr Rowe described as "unjustifiable" a proposal to allow opted-out schools to hire and fire their own staff, while local education authorities controlled schools cannot. He said he believed that all schools should have control of their own staff.

The MP also said he favoured the planned creation of a national curriculum of subjects.

But the idea of ditching too much time each school must devote to each subject was a "bad one" which would "make a mockery of handing increased responsibility to heads."

Shouting youths are ejected

Demonstrations by young men in the public gallery opened the parliamentary proceedings of the week. One shouted during the first question on Wales that he wanted to put a question to the Secretary of State (Mr Peter Walker).

After the Speaker had announced questions to the Secretary of State for Wales, the youth, dressed in a khaki jacket, shouted: "I want to put a question to the Secretary of State about the impact of education."

He was removed from the front of the Strangers' Gallery before he could finish his remarks. Mr Walker, however, was not in the Commons. He is visiting Japan on official business.

A minute or two later, another young man, wearing a bright red scarf, began shouting during a second question on Welsh affairs. He was removed quickly before he could utter a coherent sentence, but shouted something about "independence before the 19th of November."

Mr Walker's apologies for his absence before he answered the first question.



As I watched my precious cargo being stowed into the back of the Volvo, Monsieur de la Mette looked on doubtfully.

"You understand," he said, "I do not know how they will travel. For the last five years, these wines have enjoyed a constant temperature of 16°C in my cellars."

"Pas de problème," I replied, thinking immediately of the climate control. "For the next twenty-four hours they can enjoy the same conditions in my Volvo."

I should say at once that I don't normally use my 760 Estate as a mobile wine cellar, although few cars are better equipped for the task.

Nor do I often buy my wine at M. Henri de la Mette's Château Millet in the Graves district of Bordeaux.

(Oddbins in the Fulham Road is my usual haunt.)

However, when business took me to the area and a well-connected colleague to the château, it seemed a perfect chance to do both.

Which is how, on this lovely summer morning, I came to be explaining the workings of the Volvo's electronic climate control to a somewhat sceptical Henri.

"You dial in the temperature you want here," I showed him, "and then whatever the weather outside the car, the temperature inside stays constant. It even has a sensor that takes account of solar radiation."

I neglected to add that the lowest setting is 18°C, a touch above that of Henri's cellars. After all, it is sudden rises and falls that wine takes exception to, something the E.C.C. would certainly prevent.

Unimpressed, Henri grunted and turned his attention to the

seats. "Du cuir?" he barked and prodded them with his stick.

"No, they're leather," I replied and could have bitten my tongue off as, too late, I placed the word.

Politely ignoring my embarrassment, Henri seated himself happily in the front seat and beckoned me to do likewise.

"Bien. On y va."

A little earlier, I had mentioned that I'd be passing through the town of Mussidan on my way home and Henri's eyes had lit up.

It transpired that he, himself, was due in Mussidan today for a reunion luncheon with old friends.

Naturally, he would not dream of driving to and from such a celebration, in fact he had planned to take the train. However...

Well, I can take a hint-like the next man and I duly volunteered myself as chauffeur for the outward trip.

And so, after a last look to check my cases of Millet's finest were safely stowed, I slipped the Volvo into drive and off we went.

Henri expressed an interest in the buttons and switches and I obliged by demonstrating the electric sunroof and wing mirrors, much to his delight. Encouraged and flattered by his interest, I fear I got a bit carried away.

"Very safe cars, Volvos," I enthused. Henri grinned and nodded furiously.

"The safety cage, the crumple zones, very reassuring in the event of an accident."

"Bang," shouted Henri and roared with laughter.

"Bang," I agreed weakly.

I was just explaining how useful the suspension levelling system was on an estate car, when I noticed he'd gone a little quiet. He had, in fact, nodded off.

(Not a hard thing to do in a car as smooth and silent as the 760.)

By now we had passed through Libourne and were on the road to Mussidan proper.

The N89 is an arrow-straight, tree-lined invitation to pick up a speeding fine, especially with 2.8 litres of fuel injected engine beneath your right foot.

Sticking to 90Km/h with such a car is a rather dreary business, and I'm afraid that whilst Henri dozed, I day-dreamed.

Now then, I thought, if this were a commercial, a heavily laden farm truck driven by a myopic 70 year-old peasant would come trundling out of a side road, forcing me to demonstrate the Volvo's ABS braking system and my own ability to curse fluently in the local patois.

"Regardez," said Henri mildly and when I did, it was an old lady on a bicycle I saw, not a farm truck, and it was my fault, not hers.

The ABS did its stuff however and I managed to avoid her, though not the stream of Gallic invective that followed.

Henri laughed fit to bust and I slunk deep down into my seat, hoping the tinted windows would hide my blushes.

When his mirth had subsided, Henri looked around thoughtfully.

"Combien?" he asked, rubbing his thumb and forefinger together.

"Um, £20,495," I replied and began some mental calculations. "That's about -" But Henri was there before me.

"Deux cent cinq mille francs," he said softly and for the first time since he set eyes on the car, he actually seemed impressed by it.

He looked around again, as if seeing it for the first time.

"C'est tout?" he asked, plainly disbelieving.

"C'est tout," I confirmed. "Except for the number plates and delivery."

Henri said nothing more until we reached the outskirts of Mussidan and I asked where I should drop him.

"I will tell you when to stop," he said, then gave me a dig in the ribs that knocked half the breath out of me.

"I like your Volvo," he said, grinning wickedly.

"Thanks," I gasped, and wondered what he did to people whose cars he didn't like.

"Very luxurious," he went on, "very powerful."

I rubbed my ribcage and fished about for some suitable compliment in return. "It's got a lot in common with your wine," I suggested.

Henri looked blankly at me.

"They both improve with age," I finished lamely.

For a moment I thought he'd misunderstood me, then he beamed in delight. I beamed back at him.

We were still beaming at each other like idiots, when he yelled at the top

of his voice, "Arrêtez!"

Convinced that I was about to mow down yet another innocent old lady, I slammed on the anchors and the 760 stopped as if it had hit a brick wall.

Behind me there came a blaring of horns and a splatter of expletives.

Ahead of me, where I fully expected to see the mangled remains of a bicycle, there was nought but an empty street.

Henri un-clipped his belt and gestured at the tiny restaurant we had stopped beside.

"Bon. Nous voici. Au revoir, Monsieur."

Displaying an agility well at odds with his age, he opened the door and headed briskly towards his lunch.

Aware of the traffic jam behind, I turned to placate a waspish Frenchman in a battered Deux Chevaux, when Henri's face reappeared magically at the window.

"Damn fine brakes, too," he yelled and vanished again.

As I pointed the Volvo northwards, it occurred to me that if Henri's wines were as volatile as Henri, I was in for some quite fascinating dinner parties.

The new Volvo 760 GLE Estate.

VAT gold swindle gang are jailed for 30 years

By David Cross

A gang responsible for the second biggest value-added tax gold fraud in British history was yesterday jailed for a total of 30 years.

The eight-member gang used £30 million of Swiss gold ingots smuggled into Britain through Belgium to make an illegal profit of about £5 million in evaded tax payments. The sentences, which ranged from eight years to 18 months, were among the highest ever imposed for VAT evasion.

Sentencing the gang, Judge Anwyl-Davies at Southwark Crown Court, London, said that once again he was dealing with conspiracy and fraud on VAT "on a massive scale".

He added that the fair names of innocent traders had been "besmirched and tarnished" after the gang moved smuggled gold into the Hanton Garden bullion market using bogus invoices.

The judge said the men "had deliberately taken on the

risk of discovery impelled by greed" and had used the gold because it was readily transformed and totally untraceable. "Huge sums were involved; it is a fraud on the whole community."

One ringleader, Keith Squire, described as "a prime mover in the audacious conspiracy", had persisted in spite of warnings by the customs and excise until "finally rapacity drew attention to it", the judge said.

Squire, aged 51, of Lamerton, Tavistock, Devon, and Palmers Green, north London, was jailed for the maximum of seven years after being convicted of 11 offences including conspiracy to cheat, fraudulent evasion of VAT and false accounting.

Another ringleader, Michael Moran, aged 39, of Manor Drive, Southgate, north London, was jailed for five years after admitting two counts of conspiracy and one of dealing in smuggled gold.

His "willing lieutenant" Philip Rock, aged 36, of Chandos Avenue, Wilestone, north London, was jailed for three years after admitting two counts of conspiracy and one of dealing in smuggled gold.

Paul Moscow, aged 43, of Frogmore, Hampstead, was jailed for three years; Mitchell Hartney, aged 29, of Sheppey Road, Dagenham, got two years; Martin Carroll, aged 34, of Bracknell Gardens, Hampstead, was jailed for three years for conspiring to cheat; Philip Allen, aged 58, of Oslo Court, Charlbert Street, St John's Wood, was imprisoned for five and a half years; and David Mallik, aged 54, of the Ridgeway, Golders Green, for 18 months.

Brighter trips to Brighton



Mr Edward Pond displaying one of a series of murals which he has designed, and which will decorate the interior of trains which British Rail's Network SouthEast will introduce in the spring. The mural of St Paul's will be used on the new service from Bedford to Brighton, and crossing the Thames at Blackfriars, within sight of the cathedral (Rodney Cowton writes). Another four panels have also been commissioned from Mr Pond for display in trains which will operate from Waterloo station, London, to Bournemouth and Weymouth also illustrating scenes on the journeys. (Photograph: Dazell McNeelance)

Another four panels have also been commissioned from Mr Pond for display in trains which will operate from Waterloo station, London, to Bournemouth and Weymouth also illustrating scenes on the journeys. (Photograph: Dazell McNeelance)

Housing market staying 'buoyant'

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

The housing market has defied stock market jitters, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors reports in a house price survey, published today.

More than half the 124 agents who contributed to the survey reported an increase in prices of 2 per cent in the quarter ending on October 31, and 23 per cent reported increases of 5 per cent.

Mr Peter Miller, the institution's housing market spokesman, said: "The fluctuations of the stock market have helped demonstrate the value of bricks and mortar as a steady and reliable investment."

In Greater London, agents expect a slowing down in the rate of price increases, but in general the RICS describes the market as "buoyant".

From Leeds, the firm of Dacre Son and Hartley reports: "The market remains very buoyant, but shortage of available properties is causing a slow-down". From Bristol, Osmond Tricks paint an optimistic picture. "The property market remains extremely buoyant, fuelled by the availability of mortgage finance."

How criminals 'fix' juries

Jury nobbling has become big business, with organized gangs specializing in fixing trials for big-time criminals.

Convictions were obtained in spite of approaches to the jury in the value-added tax swindle case which ended yesterday. But police chiefs believe that villains have walked free after nobblers succeeded in intimidating or corrupting jurors in other trials.

Jurors were given police protection after reports of approaches during the £5 million case at Southwark Crown Court. Judge Anwyl-Davies allowed the case to go ahead after hearing of the ap-

proaches and told the jury after they gave their verdicts: "You have helped thwart the machinations of misguided people, or possibly criminals".

Scotland Yard sources suspect that big-time criminals — drug traffickers, armed robbers, fraudsters — have paid millions to nobblers.

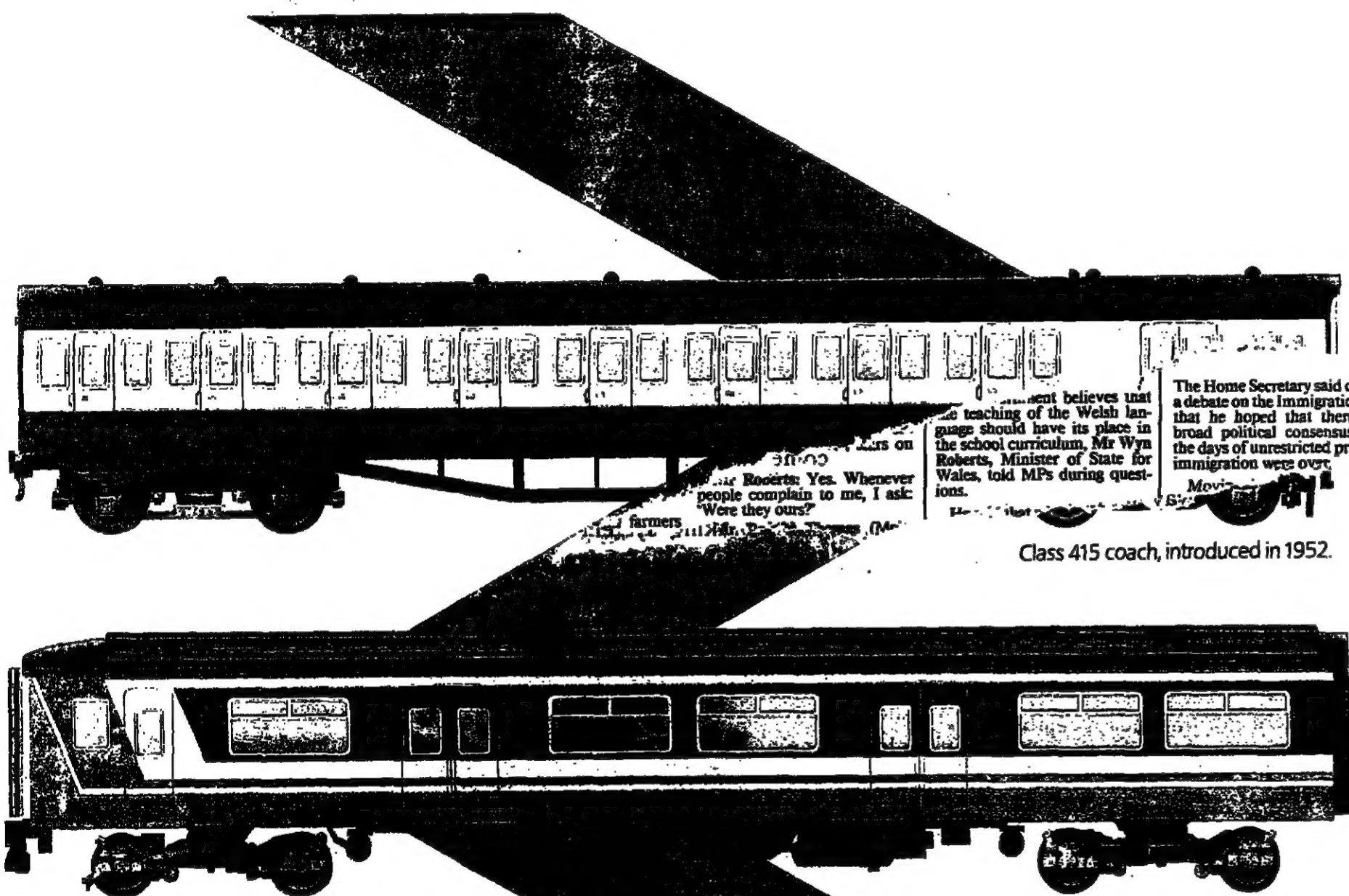
In most cases, to be sure of acquittal, at least three jurors must be nobbled to thwart the necessary 10 to two majority guilty verdict. But nobblers may rely on fixing one juror, a particularly strong personality who could sway others.

The nobbler sits in the courtroom public gallery and

assesses the most vulnerable of the 12 jurors. Invariably, the timid-looking juror is threatened by a thug. The sympathetic and impressionable are given a sob story, often by an attractive young woman. The anti-establishment type is told of a police frame-up.

In November, a Central Criminal Court trial was halted after a woman juror was threatened and handed a bundle of money at a London Underground station.

Scotland Yard chiefs have set up round-the-clock armed jury protection squads.



Class 415 coach, introduced in 1952.

Class 317/2 coach, introduced in 1986.

The age of the trains

In just a few years' time, wherever you are travelling by rail, your chances of sitting in a new train and enjoying a more efficient, more comfortable journey will be better than ever before. About three thousand million pounds better.

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Every single improvement has just one aim: to provide a more reliable, more punctual and more comfortable service for more customers than ever before.

Last year British Rail carried more

customers than at any time since 1980, despite increased competition from other kinds of public transport.

It is by competing successfully in the marketplace with other forms of transport that British Rail justifies its big new investment programme, the biggest for thirty years. At the same time, British Rail's support from the taxpayer is set to fall a further 25% by 1990, having already fallen by 25% since 1983.

As Sir Robert Reid (Chairman of British Rail) said: "There has been massive change in the railways in the last few years, as a result of the investment we have made. We're investing even more now to give our customers faster, cleaner, more comfortable and more reliable trains. We know that in order to prosper, British Rail has to be competitive."



Boxing promoter sues over article

Mr Mickey Duff, the boxing promoter and manager, was wrongly accused by *The Sunday Times* of knowingly forming alliances with a criminal American promoter, a libel jury was told yesterday in the High Court.

Mr Duff, of Southwick Street, Paddington, west London, is claiming damages against *Times Newspapers Ltd*, publishers of *The Sunday Times*.

He alleges that an article in January 1983 suggested that he had entered into agreements with the American promoter, Mr Harold Smith, who had been using stolen money to finance his deals.

Mr Richard Hartley, QC, for Mr Duff, told the jury that *The Sunday Times* was contesting the libel action. It argued that the words did not suggest that Mr Duff knowingly associated with Mr Smith but merely that he was "incapable" or "disreputable" in his dealings with the American promoter.

Mr Hartley told the jury: "We say that it means he was in it up to his neck with Harold Smith."

"When Mr Duff read the article, he was very, very

upset. He had no doubt that it was a deliberate attempt to damage his reputation."

Mr Hartley said the promoters negotiated for a fight between Muhammad Ali and the British heavyweight, John L. Gardner. Before it could take place, Mr Smith disappeared and was subsequently arrested and tried for stealing "many millions of dollars" from the Wells Fargo Bank.

When he heard of Mr Smith's disappearance, Mr Duff went to the United States to offer his help to the FBI, which was investigating the thefts and he gave evidence for the prosecution at Mr Smith's trial.

Mr Duff told the hearing yesterday that the fee of 500,000 dollars given to Ali's opponent was not disclosed to the former world champion, who would have demanded a massive increase.

"Over the years Muhammad Ali received four or five times as much as his opponent, so if his opponent was being overpaid, in his opinion, by 100,000 dollars, then he would demand an increase of 500,000 dollars", Mr Duff said.

The hearing continues.

'Spanking doctor' reinstated

Dr Kenneth Hines, who was suspended in March as a general practitioner after the General Medical Council's disciplinary committee heard that he spanked a woman patient as part of her treatment, was yesterday given permission by the committee to resume his career as a family GP.

The committee said it believed Dr Hines would never again indulge in the behaviour that had led it to suspend him from his practice at South Woodford, Essex.

The doctor had claimed he was doing God's work when he recommended spanking to women who wanted help with tension, sexual guilt and giving up smoking.

He had been found guilty of carrying out one spanking session and of recommending the therapy to three other women, but he was cleared of asking them unnecessarily intimate questions.

Yesterday Mr Jonathan Caplan, representing Dr Hines, said his client had been working as a taxi driver but wanted to resume his career.

Doubt on custody limits

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Government's new statutory limits on how long a defendant should be kept in custody are likely to have little effect on serious and complex cases, a study shows.

The findings, published in the latest *Criminal Law Review*, come as Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, has announced that he wants to extend time limits to more police areas next year.

Limits have been in force since April 1987 in Avon and Somerset, Kent and the West Midlands.

The new research, by Claire Corbett, of Oxford University's Centre for Criminological Research, and Yvonne Korn, of Southwark Policing and Community Safety Unit, found that 19 of 40 serious custody cases they examined would have exceeded the time limit of 70 days.

Such a limit would result only "in frequent applications for extensions in the most serious cases brought to trial".

Environment fears in CEBG privatization

By John Young

Privatization of electricity raises more complex and profound questions about protecting the environment than that of British Gas or Britoil, a conference in London was told yesterday.

Mr Peter James, senior research fellow at the Institute for Management Research and Development, said the electricity industry's impact on the environment included nuclear wastes and acid rain, two controversial and intractable issues.

Many saw the electricity supply industry in general, and nuclear power in particular, as central symbols of what they considered to be the destructive tendencies of modern industrial societies. He was speaking at a conference

organized by the UK Centre for Economic and Environmental Development.

Among the questions to be asked was whether privatization would affect the Central Electricity Generating Board's stated intention of building a large number of nuclear and coal-fired power stations.

He asked: "Are nuclear power stations safe in private hands and, if they are, can the public be persuaded of it?"

"What will be the attitude of the new privatized utilities towards sulphur emissions and flue gas scrubbing as a means of reducing them?"

The United Kingdom was a rich country and should be a leader in environmental protection.

Independent status sought for crime prevention group

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The new national organization for crime prevention must be independent enough, through private funding, to criticize government policy, an official report says.

The report, to be delivered to Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, at the end of this month, also calls for social crime prevention, by providing young people who might be attracted to street crime, with alternative, lawful activities, and emphasizes the limited success rate of Neighbourhood Watch schemes.

Prepared by Mr Steven Norris, the former Conservative MP, and Mr David Birley, a Home Office crime prevention consultant, the report is expected to recommend that the new body, known in Whitehall so far as the National Organization for Crime Prevention or NOCP, should be called "Crime Concern", to underline its pressure group functions. The organization will require government funding initially, but should then have private funding to guard its independence.

Ministers are anxious to have the new organization set

up and running by next April. It is planned to include representatives from such organizations as the CBI, the TUC, the Association of Chief Police Officers, the Association of British Insurers, and Nacro (National Organization for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders).

Local authorities will also have nominees and there will be a strong representation from the 42,000 Neighbourhood Watch schemes and 300 Crime Prevention panels already at work in Britain.

However, ministers will be told that only about 20 per cent of Neighbourhood Watch schemes are doing an effective job.

Mr Norris told *The Times*: "One of the problems is that it has been convenient for ministers to point to the burgeoning Neighbourhood Watch schemes as evidence of the great steps being taken to prevent crime. But of those 42,000 schemes, perhaps only 20 per cent, some 8,000, are actually really good."

"There is a danger that a Neighbourhood Watch scheme is either totally apathetic and meaningless or that, if not properly directed, it

becomes overactive and vigilantist."

Mr Norris also said that ministers have in the past shied away from involvement with the social policy aspects of preventing crime.

Although the authors would not discuss the precise contents of the report to go to Mr Hurd, it is expected that their recommendations will include:

- That the new body should be involved not just with "target strengthening" to make life more difficult for the criminal, but also social crime prevention.
- It should maintain a register of Neighbourhood Watch schemes and act as a point of reference to co-ordinate their activities.
- It should raise and distribute "pump-priming" finance for crime prevention projects.
- It should provide an advisory service to new Neighbourhood Watch schemes and to councils with problem estates.
- It should organize seminars, conferences and training initiatives.
- It should monitor and commission research.

Fighting crime, page 14

Gold top milker for classroom farmers



The Queen has sold a Jersey calf to Higham Lane Comprehensive School in Nuneaton, Warwickshire, after two pupils wrote to her describing the school's model farm, created from an acre of waste land in 1974. The school was presented with Windsor Coronet

Crystal VI after Gillian Holden, aged 15 (shown holding the calf) and Caroline North, aged 14, explained their reasons for wanting a Jersey cow which they could milk and use for breeding. The Queen charged £80 for the calf which probably would have

fetched £250 commercially. The school farm already has 70 sheep, four Friesian calves, a gaggle of geese, three goats, 35 chickens, five ducks, several rabbits and four pigs. Pupils use the farm for practical lessons. Mr John Terry, who teaches rural studies,

said the subject was one of the most popular at the school. Mr Terry has published two books about his experiences on the farm, called *Pigs in the Playground* and *Calves in the Classroom*.

(Photograph: Philip Dunn)

River protection: 2

Doubts over clean bill for tap water

A few days ago the Yorkshire Water Authority declared that drinking water supplies in its area were "better than ever". Mr Peter Coverdale, the authority's deputy chairman, said that customers could be reassured that they were receiving perfectly safe and wholesome drinking water.

Allegations of sewage pollution of water were completely untrue, he said. But he added that the authority intended "to bring up to standard all supply areas with possibly suspect bacteriological quality within the next year or two".

Claims by some environmental groups that tap water constitutes a health hazard in many areas have been dismissed by the industry as scare-mongering. But senior officials concede that the environment committee's conclusion that 25 years' steady improvement in river quality had come to an end, and that pollution was on the increase, are a cause for concern.

The committee criticized poor performance by the water authorities in meeting their own standards for effluent discharges. Improvements were needed to arrest the recent slight decline in river quality.

The Water Authorities Association says that the committee emphasized that in general water quality remains very high. A government survey in 1983 found that 90 per cent of the total length of rivers in England and Wales, and 92 per cent of estuaries, were of satisfactory quality.

In contrast to the Mersey, the most polluted waterway in Britain, another important river, the Severn, is a high class game fish reserve and a widely used source of drinking water.

Although it receives significant quantities of sewage effluent, which in summer can amount to 20 per cent of the river flow, releases from reservoirs in the headwaters and from newly developed groundwater sources ensure that there is no damage to flora and fauna.

The river supports large numbers of salmon and trout

The disclosure by the Commons environment committee this year that the quality of rivers was declining again after many years of steady improvement has been accompanied by concern over the safety of drinking water. In the second of two articles John Young, Agriculture Correspondent, examines authorities' record, and has a growing population of otters in the upper reaches.

The association's assistant secretary, Mr Roger White, says that serious industrial pollution is continuing to decline, and that there have been successful clean-ups of other big rivers including the Thames, the Tyne and the Trent. The Tame, a tributary of the Trent, which runs through Birmingham and the Black Country, was once a completely lifeless stretch of water, but now supports a thriving coarse fishery.

But sewage disposal remains a problem for most authorities. They claim that their investment programmes in new treatment works are being hindered by government restrictions on capital spending. Indeed several of them, notably Thames, are under orders to pay off their debts, with the result that potential benefits from higher water charges are not being passed on to their customers.

The issue of responsibility for river pollution is certain to become the subject of increasing public attention if and when the authorities are privatized. The environment committee called for an independent watchdog, which the Government has since enshrined in its proposed National Rivers Authority, which would retain the overall responsibility for water quality within the public sector.

After mounting a vociferous campaign against this division of functions, the authorities have now largely dropped their opposition.

Concluded.

Hospital looks for a new Peter Pan

By Thomson Practice, Science Correspondent

Fifty years after J M Barrie bequeathed the royalties of *Peter Pan* to the Hospital for Sick Children in Great Ormond Street, London, the copyright is about to expire.

After half a century of book sales and theatrical productions, the benefits to the hospital can almost certainly be counted in millions.

Now, in the hospital's moment of greatest need, when a £30 million appeal has been launched to save it, children can no longer rely on the fictional character to save them.

"It is an unfortunate coincidence. What we need now is another Peter Pan to come to our rescue", Miss Josephine Lundberg, one of the appeal organizers, said yesterday.

The author bequeathed the rights because of his interest in the children's hospital. Steven Spielberg, the Hollywood director, who has planned to make a film of *Peter Pan*, gave the hospital one

million dollars towards its campaign earlier this year, apparently because the film is unlikely to proceed.

The publishers of a new version of the story, Pavilion Books, have said they will give a percentage of its profits to the hospital.

So far the hospital has received almost £10 million towards its appeal in gifts and commitments. The biggest donors are Mr Garry Weston, chairman of Associated British Foods, who has given £3 million; the Bernard Sunley Charitable Trust, £1 million; and Mrs Jean Sainsbury, £566,000.

The Variety Club of Great Britain has undertaken to raise £3 million and *The Sun* newspaper's £1 million campaign has brought in about £130,000 from readers.

Donations should be sent to: The Wishing Well Appeal for Great Ormond Street Hospital, 49 Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3HZ, or handed in at any Midland Bank.

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"Bien. On y va."

A little earlier, I had mentioned that he was passing through the town of home and Henri's

road, forcing me to

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CREME ET PARFUM

WORLD SUMMARY

Aids man jailed for having sex

Boon — An American convicted of having sexual relations with three other men although he knew he was suffering from Aids was sentenced yesterday by a West German court to two years imprisonment (John England writes).

Linwood Boyette, aged 46, an ex-serviceman who has lived in West Germany for several years, was found guilty by the Nuremberg High Court of attempting to cause the men, an Italian, a Spaniard and a West German, grievous bodily harm.

He was accused of picking up the men in gay clubs and having oral and anal sex with them without telling them that he was infected or taking precautions not to infect them. His Spanish partner is now also suffering from Aids, although Boyette was not charged with infecting him. The case was the first of its kind in West Germany.

Train crash kills five

Gothenburg, Sweden (AP) — Two express trains collided at high speed at a suburban station at Lerum yesterday, setting a locomotive and a carriage on fire and trapping some passengers in the wreckage for more than two hours. At least five people were killed and two carriages were so badly twisted that they were sealed shut and it was unclear how many casualties were trapped inside. The automatic train control system, designed to prevent two trains from being on the same track, had apparently been shut off while work was done on nearby tracks.

Swazi MP 250 hurt clear-out in clashes

Mbabane (AP) — An electoral college in Swaziland announced yesterday that it had rejected all sitting members of Parliament and chosen 40 new MPs. The fresh intake includes 36 black men, two black women and two white men, none of whom has served previously. The outgoing members were eligible for re-election, but the college rejected all who sought another five-year term.

There are no political parties in the country and candidates are selected by local chiefs on the basis of their reputations.

Turkish exiles return

Ankara (Reuters) — Turkish police increased surveillance of extreme left-wingers yesterday before the planned arrival — and probable arrest — of two Communist leaders after seven years' self-imposed exile.

Police also tightened security at Ankara airport, where Mr Haydar Kutlu and Mr Nihat Sargin were due to arrive from Europe with Communist officials and parliamentarians from Denmark, Greece, Italy, Spain and West Germany. The pair, who fled from Turkey in 1980, say they want to return to establish a legal party to contest elections.

Appeal on Britons exit visas in court

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, urged his Romanian counterpart, Mr Ioan Totu, to allow 13 Romanians married to Britons to leave the country (Andrew McEwen writes).

During talks in London, Sir Geoffrey pointed out they had already waited more than six months. Under agreements of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, to which Romania is a signatory, governments are required to process cases within six months. Mr Totu said he would re-examine the cases.

Deng feels his age

Peking (Reuters) — The Chinese leader, Mr Deng Xiaoping, aged 83, predicted yesterday that failing health would bar him from some political duties within two years. He said he hoped to meet the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, one day, but that by the time he was 85 he would not be fit enough for such a summit, Japanese sources said.

DC9 disaster inquiry focuses on snowstorm take-off

Denver crash airlines' nightmare

From Charles Bremner
New York

The crash of the Continental Airlines DC9 at Denver, Colorado, on Sunday — the second air disaster in the US in three months — was the worst possible nightmare for America's troubled airline industry and the hard-pressed government agency that controls it.

Though investigations were only just getting under way in Denver yesterday, the media focused intensely on the snowstorm that was raging when the ill-fated jet began its take-off run. Twenty-six people died, 55 survived.

Airport authorities said conditions were acceptable, although there was an eighth of an inch of snow on the runway and only three-quarters of a mile visibility in driving snow.

Strong winds of up to 30 miles per hour were blowing south down the north-facing runway when the flight began. Airport officials noted that there was no crosswind and said that conditions were acceptable.

Mr Kevin Fleming, the airport operations manager, said yesterday that conditions were normal for heavy snowstorms at Stapleton. Asked if the airport should have been closed, the airport's spokesman said:

A twin-engine King Air plane on its way from Chicago to Baraboo, Wisconsin, crashed yesterday near Madison, Wisconsin, killing as many as eight people, a spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration said (AP reports from Chicago). The pilot was on his descent toward Baraboo when he radioed "Mayday, mayday" several times.

man, Mr Richard Boulware, said: "I don't believe so, no. There were no crosswinds."

There appeared to be no eye-witnesses on the ground because the snowstorm had reduced visibility.

Under fire from the public, politicians and pilots, airlines had just started repairing their image after a summer of chaos that included a rash of near collisions, horrendous delays and the August 16 disaster in which a Northwest Airlines airliner crashed on take-off at Detroit, killing 156 people.

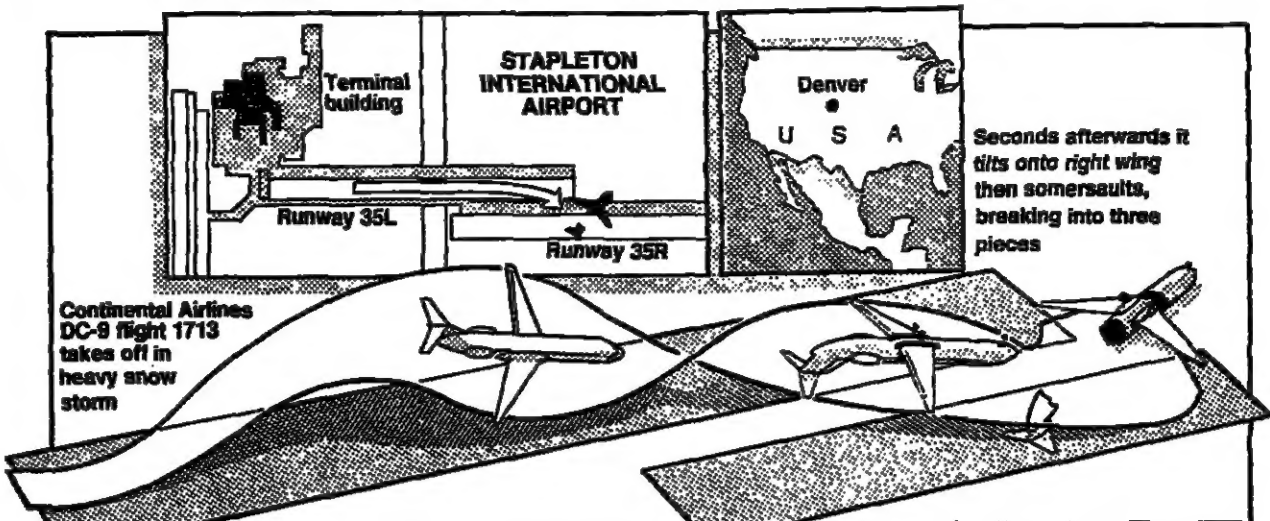
The Detroit crash was written off by many in the industry as an aberration in an otherwise "safe" year for scheduled airline travel, though many experts saw it as a symptom that the huge industry was cutting corners and operating with dangerously small safety margins.

A public hearing opened yesterday in Detroit into the Northwest crash, which government investigators have attributed to a failure to extend the flaps to the correct position on take-off — an elementary step by all pilots.

Since the airline industry was "de-regulated" and allowed to compete in a free-for-all in the late 1970s, the main pilots' union has complained increasingly of pressure on crews by airlines to conduct flights in planes with maintenance problems or in questionable weather conditions.



As the blizzard rages, rescue workers carry away a survivor of the air disaster at Stapleton International Airport in Denver, where the Continental Airlines DC9 crashed seconds after take-off. (Graphic: John Lawson).

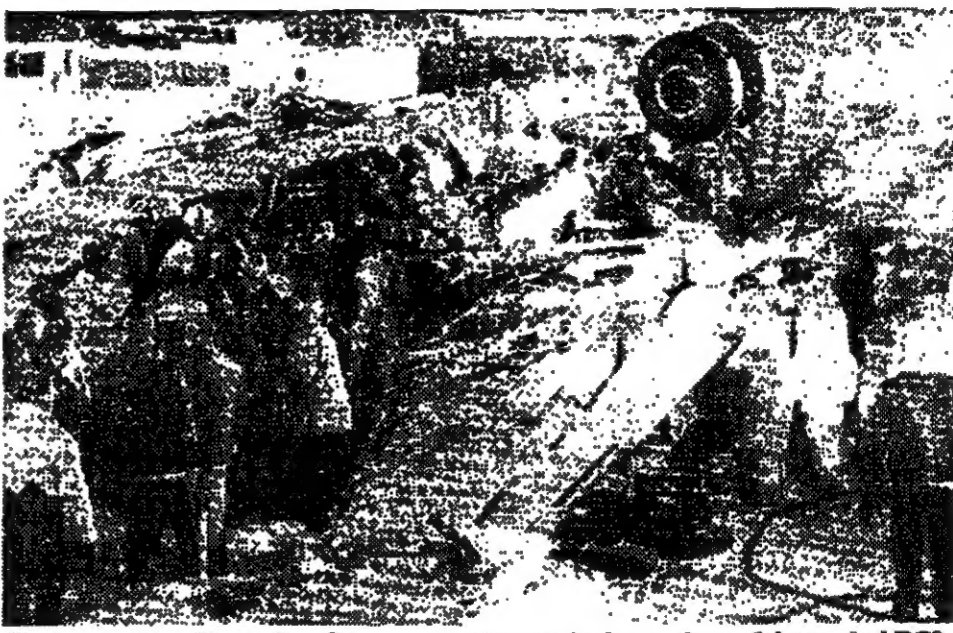


The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has just been investigating claims from pilots of Eastern Airlines, owned by the same company as Continental, that they had been penalized for refusing to fly aircraft they considered to be faulty.

The airlines, competing ferociously on the main routes, have come under intense pressure over poor time-keeping. Only last week the FAA started publishing monthly league tables for delays and misrouted baggage by the leading carriers. Several airlines were denounced by the FAA for operating flights on certain routes that were delayed more than 90 per cent of the time.

Under FAA regulations each airline is authorized to set its own weather "minimums" for operations — depending on the type of aircraft and airport. Continental yesterday declined to discuss its orders to crews. The decision to take off is, of course, the captain's alone.

Though it is far too early to attribute cause to the Denver disaster, industry sources said



Rescue teams working to free the passengers trapped in the wreckage of the crashed DC9.

a finding of pilot error could shatter the already shaky morale of the country's airline crews.

The pilots were already fuming from a public dressing-down by the FAA's new administrator, Mr Allan McArtor, after the Detroit crash

in August. He called in the airlines' chief pilots and bosses and with the press present told them to tighten up.

Continental pilots are not represented by a union. This followed an industrial dispute and a strike by the American

Airline Pilots' Association. The airline, more than any other, has suffered in public image from the upheavals of take-over and merging that has been a feature of the American industry over the past few years. It is in the midst of a big advertising campaign.

Lawyers flock to find victims

From Charles Bremner
New York

As survivors of Sunday night's Denver air crash told of their miraculous escape and "disaster," lawyers flocked to find clients and sue for millions, officials from the National Transportation Safety Board questioned witnesses and gathered data on weather.

Denver, high in the Rocky Mountains, had been hit by the first bad snowstorm of the season when Continental Airlines flight 1713 took off with 76 passengers and five crew for Boise, Idaho.

The pilot, a veteran with thousands of hours flying time, died together with the copilot when the plane hit the ground, somersaulted, broke into three pieces and slewed upside down hundreds of yards off the runway after take-off.

"The plane took off, tipped right then tipped left," said Ms Libby Smoot, aged 36. "We knew exactly what was happening. We knew we were in trouble. It was terrible."

"We were one of the first ones off the back of the plane. A lot of people were screaming and on the other side a ball of flame went right by," she said. "We were eating dirt. I was petrified."

Twenty-one passengers staggered away from the wreckage on foot before fire engines reached the crash site. Airport officials said the fact there was no big fire enabled so many to survive the crash.

Lieutenant Curtis Renfro, a naval aviation officer, saw the crash from another Continental flight landing on a parallel runway. "That flight lasted five seconds, maybe six," he said.

"The last time I saw it (the plane), it was grossly tilted. He was actually up on his starboard wing. When that happens, the pilot tries to flip to left to correct. He may have overcompensated."

Dr Ron Semlow, also on the landing Continental Airlines plane, said the crashing jet somersaulted.

"The plane had lifted off the ground, then the right wing touched and then the plane nosed into the ground. The whole thing did a somersault. The tail was coming over and all the rest was in flames."

Dr Norman Dierman, emergency director at Denver Hospital, said he was amazed at the number of survivors. "It was luck. Divine providence — and the fact that the airplane had not gained much altitude."

Rescue workers struggled for six hours to free all the passengers, many of whom were left hanging upside down in their seats and wedged behind broken fuselage.

Firemen pumped hot air into the wreckage to keep survivors warm.

The last big US plane crash was on August 16, when a Northwest Airlines MD80 crashed on take-off at Detroit metropolitan airport, killing 156 people.

Yeltsin's humiliation sparks protests

From Christopher Walker
Moscow

Political protests of a type unknown inside the Soviet Union have followed last week's public humiliation and sacking of Mr Boris Yeltsin, the charismatic Kremlin reformer and former chief of the Moscow city Communist Party.

The protests have severely embarrassed the Kremlin leadership, which has repeatedly tried to play down the implications of the Yeltsin affair.

The wave of sympathy for Mr Yeltsin among intellectuals and young people who saw him as a bastion against conservative attempts to slow

down the reform drive, have been accompanied by persistent rumours in the capital that he is ill in hospital with a heart condition exacerbated by his public disgrace at last Wednesday's meeting of the Moscow party.

On Sunday night a group of 40 members of the newly-formed *informal*, or *informal*, political groups which have sprung up in support of the reform drive held a meeting in the hall of a Moscow factory which, according to Soviet sources present, was broken up by the militia after it had been in progress for more than an hour. The sources said that the meeting, at which all but one speaker had voiced support for Mr

Yeltsin, consisted of members of three of the new groups, the Club for Public Initiatives, the Perestroika Club and the Community Club.

The pro-Yeltsin radicals, who see his sacking as the start of a conservative backlash against many of the recent changes inside the Soviet Union, also attempted to stage a public demonstration yesterday in a central Moscow square.

According to the Soviet sources, a formal application to hold the demonstration — nominally described as being in support of perestroika and glasnost — was rejected by the city authorities.

Even before Mr Yeltsin's

dismissal, attempts by his backers to draw up a petition in his favour had been broken up by Communist Party officials.

Describing the unprecedented campaign in support of a man so forcibly denounced by the Kremlin leadership, a senior Western diplomat said: "The immediate effect will be to polarize the community in Moscow and to prolong the memory of an embarrassing affair I am sure Mr Gorbachev would like to forget."

Against the background of popular discontent, which may pose further political problems for Mr Gorbachev, Mr Yeltsin's rapid fall from official favour continued yesterday when indications came that he

has now also been dropped from the Politburo.

His further political decline was signalled by the absence of his name from a *Pravda* obituary for the Latvian Communist leader, Mr Patras Griskisvicius, which was signed by all the other full and junior members of the ruling Politburo.

Under Soviet rules, he can only formally lose his Politburo seat by a decision of the 307-member Central Committee. The swiftness with which his name has been excised from notices signed by the Kremlin hierarchy was seen as an indication of his fervent desire to defuse the continuing public support for him.

Government crisis in Italy

Cossiga goes talent-spotting as parties name their price

From Roger Boyes, Rome

President Cossiga of Italy yesterday went a-wooing among the country's political leaders in an attempt to find a new government. The errand Liberal Party, whose withdrawal led to the collapse of the five-party coalition at the weekend, was yesterday playing hard to get, half willing and half reluctant to rejoin the dance.

The President, who should today have been the guest of the Queen, seems to favour a restoration of the Government of Signor Giovanni Goria, the 44-year-old *Wunderkind* of Italian politics.

In Italy, governments are named like ships and so this would be Goria II (compared to Andreotti V and Fanfani VI). The four parties — Christian Democrats, the Socialists, and the Republicans and Social Democrats — who were flitted by the Liberals are all certain that they would like to form a government again. All four agree on the present shape of the budget for 1988, all agree that there will have to be radical cuts in public spending, that the main problem is the budget deficit — the largest in Western Europe — and all four blame the Liberals for the present collapse.

However, the level of accord does not go much beyond this. If there is a Goria II, it should be able to get the budget through Parliament, but it will shake dangerously when the parties try to work out how to legislate to curb nuclear power and how to reform the judiciary. The recent national referendum has made such legislation unavoidable.

Whether the next American president would continue such aid is another matter. Equally uncertain is the strength of the Soviet Union's commitment to support the MPLA.

Signor Goria, moreover, is already under guerrilla attack from his own Christian Democratic Party, where some believe that he has been mishandling the crisis. His critics say that firmer leadership could have kept the Liberals on board.

Signor Sandro Fontana, a maverick Christian Democrat, said yesterday: "So far the Government has not been

system of proportional representation that small parties have most power when governments are being made or broken. The Liberals, with only 2.1 per cent of the national vote and the smallest member of the five-party coalition, had almost no say in the drafting of the budget. By staging a noisy *démarche*, it has reminded the Italians of its existence."

Having done so, it must now find a way back into the Government without losing face.

President Cossiga, who has a sharp political intelligence and an almost Oriental instinct for face-saving, spent yesterday trying to find out if more concessions could be given to the Liberals. So far the Liberals have been promised only a working group to report back on their complaints by February.

The Christian Democrats yesterday stressed that the new government must be led by someone from their party. That was to forestall any proposals by Signor Bettino Craxi, the leader of the Socialist Party, to put one of his men in place.

In Christian Democratic circles the idea is being floated that the party chairman, Signor Ciriaco De Mita, could be the next Prime Minister. But that would again polarize the Government, for the old enmity between Signor De Mita and Signor Craxi still lingers on.

The leadership of the opposition Communist Party also met yesterday but they seem reconciled to further exclusion from the Government.



President Cossiga: Favours another Goria government.

Pretoria hopes to win deal for Unita in Angola

From Michael Hornsby
Johannesburg

South African forces are engaged in "mopping-up operations" in southern Angola against retreating Soviet-backed Angolan and Cuban forces, military sources claimed yesterday.

South Africa's ultimate aim appears to be to inflict such a severe defeat on the Angolan Government and its communist allies that they will be forced to come to terms with the Pretoria-backed Unita rebels of Dr Jonas Savimbi, and agree to the formation of a coalition government.

Pretoria's more immediate goal is to prevent Angolan government forces digging in round the town of Cuico Cuavale in Cuando-Cubango province, and thus being in a position to re-launch an offensive against the Unita stronghold of Mavinga, some 140 miles to the south-east, once the short rainy season, now just starting, is over.

If Pretoria can achieve its grand design, it would dramatically reverse the humiliating defeat it suffered in 1975-76, the last time South Africa's armed forces were involved in southern Angola on a comparable scale.

Then South Africa's armoured columns, supported by guerrillas of Unita and the (now defunct) FNLA faction of Mr Holden Roberto, penetrated almost to Luanda in a bid to topple the recently-installed Marxist MPLA Government, but had to pull back due to pressure from the United States.

South Africa has an estimated 3,000 troops, backed by 70 armoured cars and air and artillery support, fighting alongside Unita guerrillas, according to President Dos Santos of Angola (Jan Raath writes from Harare). He also said in Luanda that 31,000 troops, 435 tanks, 80 fighter planes and more than 400 artillery pieces were being massed along the Angolan border in northern Namibia.

Angola's former rulers, the Portuguese, had fought three separate black nationalist movements during the 1960s and early 1970s — the MPLA, the FNLA and Unita. After the Portuguese revolution of April 1974, Lisbon planned to hold multi-party elections in Angola before relinquishing control of its colony.

But fighting broke out between the

MPLA and the other two groups. The MPLA, with Soviet aid, eventually got the upper hand, establishing itself in power in Luanda. Dr Savimbi's Unita took to the bush, and the FNLA was wiped out as an effective force.

The South Africans crossed the border into southern Angola in August 1975. The first Cuban troops arrived in Angola at about the same time, though there had been a build-up of Cuban troops and Soviet equipment in neighbouring Congo for some months previously.

At first, Pretoria seemed mainly interested in protecting the Cuanene river irrigation and hydro-electric schemes where the workers had downed tools because of continual harassment by rival Angolan black nationalist groups.

The South Africans were also intent on preventing guerrillas of the Angola-based South West Africa People's Organization (Swapo) from taking advantage of the chaos in Angola to step up their infiltration of South African-occupied Namibia.

South Africa forces did not go fully on the offensive until October 1975.

This prompted a much faster build-up of Cuban troops on the side of the MPLA. Then, as now, Pretoria maintained a veil of secrecy over its operations, not admitting until later that its troops were in Angola.

Pretoria's forces, operating out of northern Namibia, have been in and out of southern Angola ever since. Now, it seems, the South African generals sense a chance to shift the balance of power dramatically in Unita's favour — a dangerous gamble which could once again see Pretoria being sucked into a conflict in southern Angola, where it would need Western support.

President Reagan has committed America to Unita by providing \$30 million (£17.6 million) in covert arms aid over two years. The aid includes Stinger anti-aircraft missile, which, according to Dr Savimbi, played a crucial role in the recent fighting.

Whether the next American president would continue such aid is another matter. Equally uncertain is the strength of the Soviet Union's commitment to support the MPLA.

Same? to cutback in his power to govern

Sarney bows to cutback in his power to govern

From Mac Margolis, Rio de Janeiro

President Sarney of Brazil has announced that he will not contest a decision by the Constituent Assembly to shorten his mandate by two years and call presidential elections by November, 1988.

Although Congress must still ratify the decision, and the President's allies are mustering forces for a challenge in a plenary session, a spokesman for Senator Sarney said the President had no intention to "negotiate over minor questions that are not in the nation's interest."

Last week Senator Sarney issued a warning that any congressional voting for a four-year term would be making a declaration of war and could expect reprisals.

But the warning backfired badly. Senator Mario Covas, leader in Congress of the ruling Democratic Movement Party, said the threat had been decisive in securing a majority for four years. And in a fighting speech in Sunday's debate a senior Democratic Movement Party senator, Senator José Richa, said: "If the President does not want an understanding with us, we will change the President."

Senator Sarney's apparent calm after the vote belied a bitter disappointment at the crushing blow in a mandate besieged with interminable political feuds and economic setbacks. Not only will the President be put out of office a year earlier than he had planned, he will also be rendered a virtual lame duck for the next year and a half.

The Constituent Assembly's systematization committee decided by 48 votes to 45 not only to call elections next year but also to establish a parliamentary form of government. Senator Sarney will have to divide his power with a Prime Minister as soon as March, 1988.

Ever since Senator Sarney took over in March, 1985, he has tried to build a regime on top of political quicksand. Painfully, he won over sceptics by skilful administrative manoeuvres and a novel economic reform that put money into workers' pockets.

Washington — A few days ago I went to see Senator Robert Dole, the Republican leader in the Senate, who had just launched his campaign for the presidency. It is generally believed that the Republican nomination next year now lies between him and Vice-President George Bush.

At this stage Mr Bush must be regarded as the front-runner. But if he fails to land a knockout blow in the Iowa caucuses and the early primaries, it could be a long and hard-fought battle. Senator Dole is in with a serious chance.

If he does make it, he will be a very different President from Mr Reagan. That is evident both from his personal style and his approach to the office.

He has a reputation for wit, often a distinctly acerbic wit. But what struck me in our conversation was his directness. Ask him a straight question and you get a straight answer. That might, of course, be something of a liability in campaigning, but it is none the less refreshing.

Bipartisan policy is necessary

There were no anecdotes, no attempt at focusing charm. Perhaps he was influenced by the tightness of his schedule, but I felt that his natural inclination would always be to get on with the business in hand. He would, he declared, be an activist President, and I could well believe it. He is not a man to disregard detail, or to leave many policy decisions to others. Indeed, in sharp contrast to Mr Reagan, his weakness might be a reluctance to delegate.

But he appreciates the need to co-operate. His working assumption is that the Democrats will continue to control both houses of Congress and that it will be necessary for the next President to adopt a bipartisan strategy if he is to get anything done. His number one goal, he told me, would be to work with Congress to reduce the budget deficit.

This general approach seems to me a reasonable assessment of the position in which the next President will find himself. It is also an approach calculated to make the most of Senator Dole's assets as a congressional leader with long experience of Capitol Hill.

In foreign policy also he seems to put a premium on dialogue. While chary of the word summit, which he believes has been over-used, he would like to institute regular annual meetings between the President of the United States

and hundreds of government candidates into office.

His fortunes plummeted as the mismanaged price freeze collapsed and inflation roared back to four figures. Dwindling foreign currency reserves and a vanishing trade surplus backed Senator Sarney into a debt moratorium last February, and the moratorium pushed him into a showdown with foreign creditors.

Senator Sarney continued to fiddle with government, substituting ministers here and there and repeating, like a mantra, oaths against public spending.

Senator Luiz Carlos Bresser Pereira, the President's third Finance Minister in as many years, nursed the trade balance back to more than a billion dollars a month. But, with surging wage demands and a ballooning budget deficit, inflation continued to rise.

The governing coalition, the Democratic Alliance, trembled and finally crumbled earlier this year as the two leading parties bickered over government jobs. The majority Democratic Movement Party, eternally vacillating between supporting and opposing the President Sarney's Administration, never openly split but is now fissured into predatory sub-groups.

The left wing of the party has criticized the debt agreement signed in New York last month, which paved the way to ending the moratorium and a possible new accord with the party's favourite *bête noire*, the International Monetary Fund.

Senator Sarney's authority was dealt another blow earlier this month when Latin America's largest car manufacturer, Autolatina, which unites Ford and Volkswagen, staged an act of "civil disobedience", raising car prices above the government limits.

Some political analysts believe that Senator Sarney could still turn this latest setback to his advantage. Now that the ruling majority has rejected his desire for a five-year term, Senator Sarney, the argument goes, is therefore free to rule with the allies of his choice.

COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

and the leader of the Soviet Union.

In his speech announcing his candidature, he spoke of his wish for an Alliance summit at the start of his administration. The purpose would be to discuss more equitable burden-sharing. Although in his conversation with me he did not refer specifically to an alliance summit, he did take up the theme of burden-sharing. Although he would not measure the burdens borne by allies simply by the crude yardsticks of troops and money, this emphasis could obviously cause some difficulties within the alliance.

No cutback in US troops in Europe

It was reassuring, therefore, to hear him say specifically that there would be no reduction of American troops in Europe. Perhaps this might not prove to be an absolutely binding commitment if circumstances were to change in the course of an eight-year period of presidency. But what he said to me last week was unequivocal and emphatic.

The overall impression I took away was that, as President, Senator Dole would be above all a problem-solver. From his years in the Senate he brings a willingness to compromise to get things done. He would therefore be less ideological than Mr Reagan and the very opposite of a laid-back President.

But would he have the warmth to project his personality and to command affection across the nation? One should not forget, now that President Reagan has run into trouble, what an asset his personality has been for governing the United States.

Senator Dole has the potential, however, of a highly capable President. If he does become the Republican nominee, he would be a formidable opponent for any Democrat now in sight.



Volcano alert: Japanese schoolchildren wearing protective hoods after Mount Mihara on Oshima Island, 70 miles south of Tokyo, erupted yesterday, one year after it forced a temporary evacuation of the island's 11,000 inhabitants. There were no reports of injuries or damage, a government official said.

Patriarch takes meaningful message to Athens

From Mario Mediano Athens

The official visit of Demetrios I. the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, to Athens this week — the first by the titular leader of Eastern Orthodoxy in 24 years — turns out to be more meaningful than symbolic.

Within the last 48 hours, the Patriarch not only urged the Greek Government to seek improved relations with Turkey, he also called on the Church of Greece to turn its sights on the year 2000 and forsake "narrow-minded parochialism".

The devotion and reverence with which the Ecumenical Patriarch is being received here, not only by the people but even the country's Socialist leaders, offers some insight into the deep religiousness that is not always apparent in Greece, although this is the only country in the world where Orthodoxy is the official religion.

Patriarch Demetrios has been accorded the honours befitting a head of state, with dignity but without ostentation. It is clear that delicate protocol balances were established to spare embarrassment to the Orthodox leader

who, although an ethnic Greek, is a Turkish passport-holder under treaty requirements, and his See has been in what today is Istanbul since the Fourth Century.

The Turkish authorities do not acknowledge the Patriarch's ecumenical role. They treat him as the head of a local Greek Orthodox church in Istanbul whose size has dwindled within this century from 200,000 to 5,000 people. The Patriarch has been careful not to offend Turkish susceptibilities by identifying himself with Greece or stimulating historical obsessions about a Byzantine revival.

When Patriarch Demetrios called on Mr Andreas Papandreu yesterday he urged the Greek Prime Minister to seek improved relations with Turkey. Mr Papandreu later said he found the Patriarch's message "very correct".

Mr Papandreu paid high tribute to the Patriarch's current journey of "love, peace and unity" which had already taken him to the Orthodox patriarchates of the Middle East and Eastern Europe. Patriarch Demetrios flies to Poland tomorrow and visits the Pope at the Vatican and the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth next month.

Arab gains France's literary crown

From Susan MacDonald Paris

The Moroccan writer, Tahar Ben Jelloun, yesterday became the first Arab to win France's renowned Prix Goncourt literary award.

In keeping with tradition, Ben Jelloun received his 50 francs (£5) prize from the 10 members of the Académie Goncourt just before lunch at the Restaurant Drouant, their place of deliberation since 1915, but was not invited to share the gourmet meal which they sat down to afterwards.

Instead, it was from the Brasserie Lipp across the river that Ben Jelloun, aged 42, talked about his book, *La Nuit Sacree* (The Sacred Night), which has already sold 50,000 copies since it was published in September. It is a fable about the emancipation of "Zahra", a woman living in the south of Morocco, who throws off her bonds when her father dies on the sacred 27th night of Ramadan.

The selection of this well-known writer and poet, who only writes in French, is bound to have political as well as literary repercussions. Mr Ben Jelloun himself says his book is a bridge between France and the Maghreb and his prize will concern a generation of young North Africans who often feel threatened.

A leading Moroccan journalist in Paris put it more bluntly. "It is an anti-Le Pen prize," he said, referring to the National Front leader's recent attacks on North African journalists working in France.



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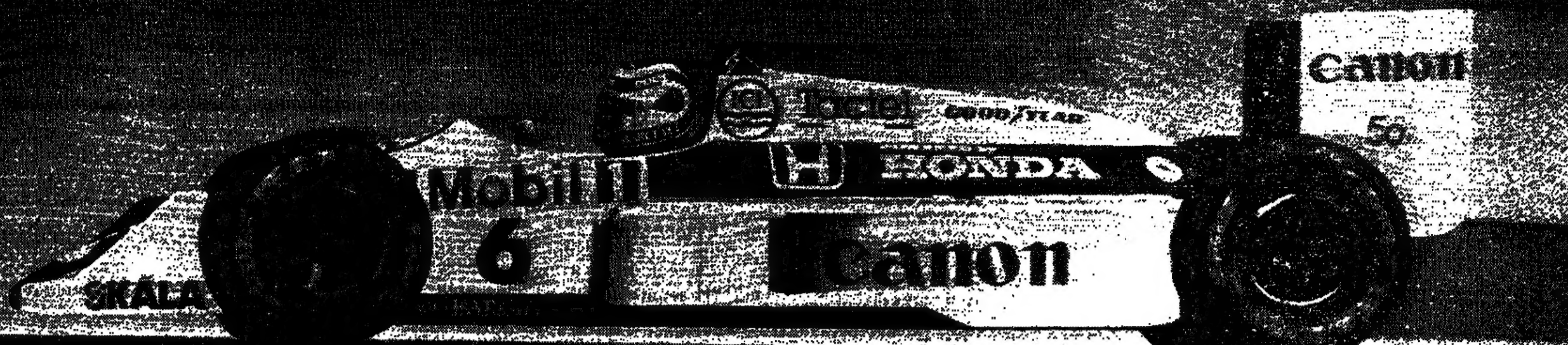
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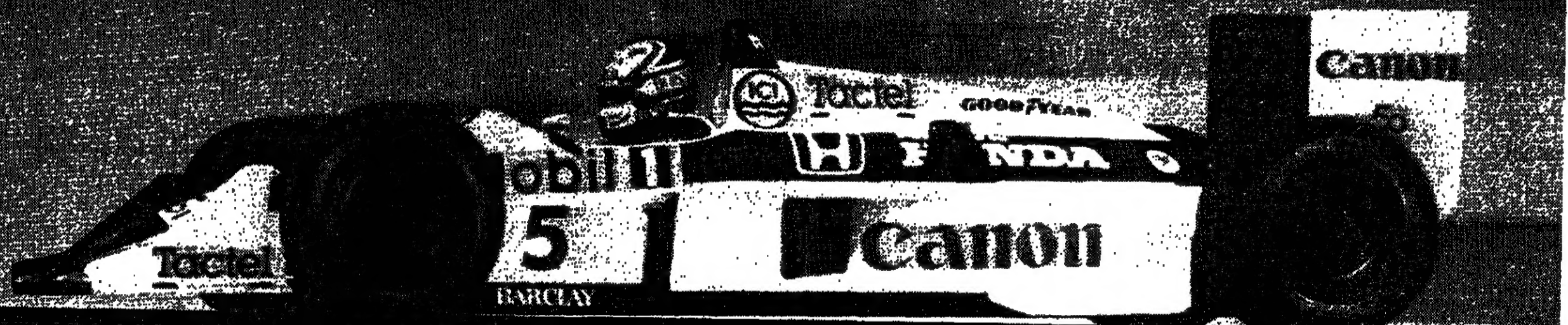
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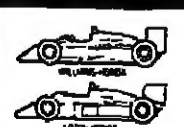
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Winter
round of a
in Eastern

Sanction fear
for Pindling

Delhi MP's attack
newspaper curb

Winter brings new round of austerity in Eastern Europe

For East Europeans, November is the cruellest month. As the first snow fell on the Carpathians this week, Communist regimes, almost without exception, unveiled new austerity measures and triggered off panic buying.

In Yugoslavia, drastic price rises announced at the weekend heralded a new winter of belt-tightening. In Romania, emergency power-saving measures announced last week will consign a hapless population into another sub-zero Advent, while in Hungary — so long the "success story" of Eastern Europe — imminent fiscal reforms have set off panic buying in Budapest.

In Poland, where on the 29th of this month, Poles will have a chance of registering what they think of their Government's economic reforms in a referendum, announced price rises remain so far the only tangible result of the long-awaited "Second Stage of economic reform". The First Stage, originating in 1982, has proved equally difficult for Poles to assess and widespread scepticism exists as to the possible success of the second.

Already the banned Solidarity movement has called for a boycott of the referendum, so as to prevent the Government being given what one of their spokesmen called "a blank cheque" for official policies. The Catholic Church has also infuriated the Government by distancing itself from the referendum; neither advising Poles to vote or not to vote on November 29.

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

In the meantime, as the Polish Government ends subsidies, basic foodstuffs are expected to rise by about 110 per cent; coal, electricity and rents by between 140 to 200 per cent. As a result of this, inflation next year in Poland is expected to run at about 50 per cent.

Inflation in Yugoslavia at this time will most likely break the 200 per cent barrier. In a its anti-inflation programme announced at the weekend, after several days of controversial debate in the Parliament, the Yugoslav Government is doubling prices of basic foodstuffs. At the same time, it is freezing and in some cases even cutting salaries.

In Hungary, where market forces have already been allowed limited sway in recent

years, new fiscal laws due to come into effect on January 1 next year will effectively cut many Hungarian incomes by as much as 25 per cent.

For the first time in the history of a communist country, personal tax forms and VAT will be introduced, so forcing, as one Hungarian put it recently, "the communist worker to pay capitalist taxes".

But however difficult the coming year is for the Hungarians, they at least can always take comfort in the fact that their southern neighbour, Romania, is once again enjoying its annual excursion into the lifestyle of the Middle Ages. There, with queues far longer than anything in Poland, wages far lower than anything in Hungary and poverty far greater than anything in Yugoslavia, a pitiful standard of living and food shortages become inescapable facts of life.

The new fuel conserving measures recently announced in Bucharest seem set to tax even further that long suffering peoples patience. Electric heaters will this winter only be allowed to function for one hour a day.

Princess assured that her visit counts



The Princess Royal admiring garlands presented to her yesterday during a visit to a school in one of Bangkok's slum areas. The princess, putting her 17 years of work as President of the Save the Children Fund on the line, yesterday bluntly asked the people in the Bangkok slum: "Does my visit do some good or is it just cosmetic?" (Neil Kelly writes).

Speaking at the railway slum alongside the tracks running into the main rail terminal, where Save the Children Fund this year gave \$8,000 to build a kindergarten, the princess asked: "Does the money for the school truly help?" Father Joe Maier, an American priest whose work in the Bangkok slums is legendary, said: "Your visit cuts a lot of ice ... by coming here you have guaranteed real support for these people." The deputy Governor of Bangkok, Mrs Amporn Pookanorn, told the princess that her visit had released funds to make many local improvements for the community of 1,000.

Chun sets one-month countdown to election

Seoul (AP) — President Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea formally announced that the first direct presidential elections in 16 years will be held on December 16, as police went on alert after a weekend of campaign violence.

Immediately after the announcement, representatives for the government candidate, Mr Roh Tae Woo, and the main candidates of the divided opposition, Mr Kim Young Sam, Mr Kim Dae Jung and Mr Kim Jong Pil, registered them to run.

Spanish crash

Madrid (Reuter) — Eight people were killed and more than 30 were injured when the bus taking them to work here skidded off a road near Toledo.

O'Neill ill

Boston (Reuter) — The retired Speaker of the US House of Representatives, Mr Thomas "Tip" O'Neill, aged 74, is to undergo rectal surgery here this week.

Home again

Melbourne (Reuter) — Nuran Orag, a 10-year-old Turkish girl, was sent back to her family in West Germany after arriving in Australia from Frankfurt without a passport or ticket earlier in the day.

Bahamas in crisis

Sanction fears for Pindling

From Alan Tomlinson, Nassau

Despite its sixth successive election victory five months ago, the Government of the Bahamas is under pressure from all sides to stamp out deep-seated political and police corruption.

Its closest neighbour, the United States, is hinting that the tiny nation of 250,000 people scattered over 700 islands could face sanctions unless it clamps down on illegal drug-trafficking.

Moreover, the Bahamian courts are examining allegations of widespread irregularities in the June ballot amid speculation that the election may have to be held again.

The Western hemisphere's oldest Parliament outside Westminster is becoming un-



Sir Lynden: under fire over his Government's inaction, usually restless as government MPs join the Opposition in heaping scorn on the way the country is run.

It is against this backdrop that the Bahamas found itself last week in the embarrassing predicament of having to explain why it asked its mother country to recall a senior diplomat during a police investigation into the death of his wife.

Officials and foreign envoys here suspect the affair involving the British naval attaché, Captain Christopher Carson, would have been handled differently if it were not for the Bahamas' sensitivity about its international reputation.

Some diplomats believe Captain Carson may have retreated from the investigation behind his diplomatic

immunity, out of lack of confidence in the police.

The police and the Government, including the Prime Minister, Sir Lynden Pindling, were severely criticized by a 1984 inquiry linking official corruption at almost every level of Bahamian life to the multi-million pound narcotics trade. But despite the damning report, only one member of the Government has since been sacked and two policemen prosecuted.

The United States, though satisfied with the co-operation it now receives in intercepting some of the estimated \$10 billion (\$6.25 billion) worth of drugs that are shipped annually through the Bahamas, is disappointed about what it sees as a lack of political will to tackle the corruption on which the drug trade thrives.

Legislation was passed last month in the US Senate which could result in sanctions being imposed against countries failing to fight wholeheartedly against drug-running.

In Parliament last week a succession of government and opposition MPs lambasted the Pindling administration for inaction. "We have become the laughing-stock of the free world," said a government backbencher, Mr Philip Pinder. He went on to describe the Royal Bahamian Police as "a joke" with half its 1,600 members on drugs.

Yet widespread concern about drugs, crime and corruption in Bahamian society has not prevented the Government from entering a third decade in office. While some opponents concede that Sir Lynden's abiding popularity and political skill won him the election, others allege fraud.

The courts last week agreed to examine opposition challenges to the results in 24 out of the nation's 49 constituencies. One diplomat noted that the Government has continued, uncharacteristically, to spend money on public works projects even after its victory, an indication of its concern that the election may ultimately be declared invalid.

Delhi MPs attack newspaper curb

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

A stand-up shouting match in one Indian House of Parliament and 50 minutes of legal points of order in the other marked attempts by Opposition MPs yesterday to raise the assault on press freedom which they saw in the Government's seizure of the Delhi offices of the *Indian Express*, the country's largest English-language newspaper.

The *Express* has been carrying on a bitter war with the Government which began with it taking sides in a battle between two textile magnates, and continued with the paper supporting Mr V.P. Singh, the former Finance Minister, in his attempts to track down possible tax evasion in high places, and the same minister's attempts to Defence Minister to throw light on bribes paid for defence contracts.

Both these otherwise laudable inquiries seemed to point fingers at people in the immediate circle of Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister. Since the war began the

paper has been unable to find anything good to say about Mr Gandhi.

In a statement yesterday, the owner of the paper, Mr Ramnath Goenka, said 10 prosecutions have been launched against the group in the past six weeks, and around 25 show-cause motions, the first step in legal proceedings, have been issued. The Customs have detained production equipment in Bombay, and Mr Goenka said: "For reasons which no one in Government will explain, our newsprint quota has not been released since September."

A month ago a group of printing workers struck at the Delhi edition of the paper encouraged, the management said, by trade unions supporting Mr Gandhi's party.

The reason for the seizure of the premises was that the *Express*, which rents its building, was said to be in breach of its lease by sub-letting offices to non-newspaper tenants.

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In order to take advantage of this special offer, complete the voucher or call in at your nearest branch for details. To earn the extra interest, the value of your deposit must be in your account when interest is credited on 1 March 1988. In the meantime, of course, you'll still have INSTANT ACCESS to your money.

*Current N & P INSTANT ACCESS rate for balances of £500-£4,999 is 6.75%. This rate will be increased by one-tenth on the investment accompanying the voucher until 31 December 1987. Only one voucher per person or per joint investment. Please note that the value of your investment must be in your account when interest is credited on 1 March 1988.

National & Provincial

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I/We enclose a cheque for £..... (minimum £500, maximum £4,999) to be invested in a new/existing Instant Access account. (Delete as appropriate)	
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National & Provincial Building Society, FREEPOST, Bradford BD1 1BR. Interest rates quoted are net of liability to basic rate income tax, and are variable. Up to £1,000 in cash or £20,000 by cheque available on demand. Full terms and conditions available on request.

It's a French knock-out



Europe sans frontières becomes a reality in only five years, and it will radically affect every one of us. But while Britain appears to be in no hurry to come to terms with the transformation that the Single European Act involves, France, as Philip Jacobson and Richard Owen found, is already preparing itself for the new era

Part 2: Lessons from France

Anyone visiting France nowadays and going into a shop, business or petrol station tends to hear the constant refrain: "Wait until 1992 — things will be different then."

French television commercials show a small figure, France, dwarfed by the United States and Japan, until France summons its 11 Euro partners and grows into a mighty EEC giant able to push the US and Japan to one side.

Much of the credit for creating the national consciousness of *quatre-vingt-douze* — conspicuously lacking in both Britain and West Germany — goes to Christiane Scrivener, who was minister for consumer affairs under President Giscard d'Estaing and is now a French Euro MP.

"I realized this was going to happen", Scrivener says, "and my own campaign began in 1982." She concentrated on two key elements in French society: the elite admin-

istrators and the captains of industry. "Suddenly everyone was talking about Europe again. Europe, you might say, was re-discovered in France."

One of the consequences of such initiatives is that if you tap a four-figure code into the French telephone network's Minitel video system, on to the screen comes a computerized map of the 12 nations of the EEC and the stirring message: "Europe without frontiers in 1992". Dive further into the dossier, established on the initiative of Bernard Bosson, minister for European affairs, and you encounter page after electronic page of information aimed at specific sectors of French commerce.

Hitting a key at random produces a "menu" of 12 dossiers setting out in minute detail — from the use of conserving agents to irradiation practices — how France's meat and milk producers may expect to be affected by the single European market.

Scores of other industries have access to similar data, and although Minitel is by no means a cheap service, the lines have been humming virtually non-stop as the French, with the utmost seriousness, begin to take stock of the implications of 1992.

Polls show that well over 70 per cent of French companies see 1992 as a golden opportunity for business — all the more remarkable since French industry, slow to adapt, even slower to innovate, has traditionally scuttled behind government trade barriers to protect itself from foreign competition.

When France first joined the Common Market, it is said, de Gaulle was besieged with pleas not to implement the terms of the Treaty of Rome. Now, Jacques Chirac's government is aided by an unusual degree of support across the political spectrum. Only the Communists, Jean-Marie Le Pen's hard-right National Front and a handful of Gaullist diehards oppose

the march towards a single internal market. Unless things change drastically, political observers say, 1992 is simply not going to be an issue in next spring's presidential elections.

France has sought all along to depict a "Europe without frontiers" as a vital means with which to meet the threat of domination — economic and otherwise — from the United States, Japan and, increasingly, the Communist bloc.

An entertaining TV sequence shows a small but pugacious boxer in tricolour shorts, squaring up to bulking opponents from these three competitors. As they close in, he whistles up his 11 mates from the other EEC nations (each wearing appropriate shorts) and, to quote Bosson, "Europe stands tall, free and independent, a good friend but not to be pushed around".

Those who have come to perceive France, rightly or wrongly, as the most self-centred member of the EEC would be surprised by the

strength of the Euro-sentiment increasingly evident around the country. "I don't think economics is the only or even the most important factor involved here," Bosson says. "It's up to all the twelve to get the human and social fabric of the new Europe right."

It is becoming increasingly common for the Community flag to be flown at public ceremonies and for the undistinguished European anthem to be sung. All 36,000 communes (roughly, local councils) in France have been encouraged to name a *rue de l'Europe* or a *boulevard de la Communauté Européenne*; there is a boom in EEC twinning; and 50,000 French teenagers are actively involved in the "Yes for Europe" movement.

With the publicity guns still blazing, it is instructive to see how individual sectors of the French economy have been reacting. The French national federation of

estate agents came to the conclusion, belatedly and with some alarm, that their business could be severely affected by an influx of foreign competition, above all from the British (we still buy more French residential property than other outsiders). So the federation will open up "outposts" abroad as a means of getting into the foreign market.

For French architects, there remains a nagging uncertainty about the exact status which their 60,000 equivalents in West Germany will enjoy post-1992: over there, they explain, the professional distinction between architect and engineer is less clear-cut than in France. The legal profession wonders whether foreign competitors who are allowed to advertise their services at home will enjoy the same right in France, and if so, whether it will finally be extended to French lawyers. The hairdressers have worked themselves into quite a state over the prospect of an invasion of

cut-price crimpers from high unemployment areas like Spain and Portugal.

It is not exactly a surprise, then, that Paris should be host, on December 5 and 6, to the first Euro-92 convention. The brainchild of former French president Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, this get-together at Unesco's headquarters hopes to attract a large cast of prominent friends of a greater Europe. In no particular order, they include Fiat boss Giovanni Agnelli, Bosson (of course), our own Lord Callaghan of Cardiff and Thomson of Monifieth (chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority), former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and the single-handed sailor Eric Tabary.

Announcing these proceedings recently, d'Estaing showed that he has lost none of his way with a phrase. The aim of the exercise, he declared, was nothing less than to "impregnate those present with the very air of Europe."

THE VIEW FROM PETER BORDEAUX

Peter Sichel is the archetypal citizen of Europe. A British national whose great-grandfather married into one of the best-known families in the German wine trade, his mother was Swedish and his father's parents were both Danish, and he himself has become a prince of the Bordeaux wine trade, part-owner of the famous Chateau Palmer and living at the Chateau d'Angludet.

He is even known in the trade as "Peter Bordeaux", to distinguish him from a distant cousin with the same name, who is "Peter New York".

He has always been an ardent and committed pro-European: "The business of the Single European Act is phenomenally exciting, because the ultimate objective of tax harmonization throughout Europe is going to create the most exciting market in the world. In the past our differences have always been held up before us; now we are going to find how very much we have in common."

Sichel met his British wife, Diana, while she was a nurse in Bordeaux. There are six Sichel children. Allan, the oldest, who had his schooling in France, went to the University of East Anglia in Norwich and is now qualifying as a chartered accountant. "There are likely to be wonderful opportunities for bilingual people with the British accountancy qualification, working probably in France for an international company," his father says.

Charlie, now working in the wine business's London office, attended a private school in Bordeaux and had three years

'Certainly 1992 is being more talked about in France'

at a minor public school in England. James, who now works in the company on the sales side, was schooled entirely in France but worked for nine months in Australia.

Ben was also educated in France, but went on to agricultural college to study viticulture and has since served terms of a winemaking apprenticeship with wineries in California.

David, the youngest boy, is studying now for his French Baccalaureat and his father hopes he will go on to a business course at university — perhaps in France, or more likely in the United States. "French education is excellent, and the younger it is the better it is. But the universities have no campus atmosphere, and very little human contact."

Sichel's daughter, Rebecca, is 10 years younger than David, and, her father says, "a typical, sweet little French girl."

Sichel is a happy man. "I just knew the moment I arrived in Bordeaux that this was where I wanted to be. I live a French life, and absolutely enjoy it."

"Certainly 1992 is being more talked about in France, probably as a political means of motivating people. But really what the politicians are doing now is exactly what one would have wanted to see done 20 years ago, instead of bumbling on from day to day and crisis to crisis."

Robin Young

TOMORROW

A citizen's guide to the new Europe

A passion to convert

One corner of the Quai d'Orsay is the evangelical front line for Bernard Bosson, minister with a Euro mission

If ever there lived and breathed a true evangelist of the single internal market, it is Bernard Bosson. As soon as he begins talking about "quatre-vingt-douze", France's dynamic 39-year-old minister for European affairs is half out of his chair, eyes gleaming with excitement.

Unblinded by the countless speeches and papers he has delivered on the topic from one end of France to the other, Bosson breathes life and passion into anything from Perrier's problems in Denmark (bottles not reusable) to the arcane and iniquitous workings of internal tariffs.

For Bosson, who trained and practised as a lawyer in Annecy before moving into local, then national, politics, the grand design represents a make-or-buy turning point for Europe. "My aim is to get people thinking about 1992 in terms of eliminating the frontiers of an entire continent without conquest or force of arms. That is something quite without precedent, and I don't mind admitting that I find it thrilling."

A bit of nerve is required, sitting in his spacious office in one of the more impenetrable redoubts of the Quai d'Orsay, to ask this unassuming visionary whether he sees his role primarily in terms of what's in it for France. A broad smile, a pause for thought: "I assure you, it's very much the 12 nations of Europe that occupy my mind. But I also take the view, which I hope won't sound too chauvinistic, that a wealthier France will be good for all Europeans. For me, it boils down to a question of making every nation in the Community richer, while retaining their individuality, inside the greatest free market in the world."

What about the British, surely the most lukewarm to such stirring exhortations? It turns out that the youthful Bosson had been despatched, in proper uniform, naturally, to boarding school in Cheltenham for a few months.

He enjoyed the experience, and left as a confirmed Anglophile; he has faith in our European qualities.

"From what we see now, the



No going back: Bernard Bosson, committed to a new Europe

British are really responding to the challenge of 1992 in a very positive way. It was not that long ago, Bosson points out, that hardly anyone in France was talking, let alone thinking, about 1992. "Then we suddenly woke up. I'd be delighted if you were to become even more European-minded than us French — well, perhaps equally."

There is no doubt in Bosson's mind that the right sort of publicity works. "At most too well in our case. It

sometimes feels as if every industrial enterprise, big and small, every chamber of commerce and every professional body is hammering at our door for information."

In sum, Bosson says that from any objective point of view, a country that drags its feet in the final run-up to 1992 is going to suffer serious self-inflicted wounds. "There is no going back on this road, of that I am utterly certain."

Philip Jacobson

Casting the Euro-net

In the French channel port of Dieppe a determined campaign is being waged to ensure that the fishing industry remains competitive after the passage of the Single European Act opens wide competition between the Common Market's 12 member countries.

"So far," says Patrick Bordier, the port manager of harbour facilities, "we have been identifying the problems rather than finding precise solutions. We know that there is a lot of work to be done, because in 1992 we want to be in the best possible position to offer the best quality fish all over Europe."

Dieppe is, by French standards, a comparatively small fishing port, but the 10,000 tonnes landed every year includes a high proportion of high quality, high value varieties — sole, bass, turbot and

Dieppe is set on being a big fish when the going gets tougher

brill — which are sold to Italy, Germany, Belgium and Luxembourg.

"Our problem is that the fishing port is right within the town", Bordier says. "Our opportunities to find new space or erect new buildings are so limited as to be almost non-existent."

But the harbour is expanding: work is nearing completion on an artificial *arrière-port*, protected by a new breakwater, which will handle Sealink's roll-on roll-off freight ferries from Newhav-

en, and the new daily Suardiaz freight service from Southampton. Later, a new passenger terminal will enable the passenger ferries too to be switched to the new harbour, releasing the town basin for development as a yacht marina.

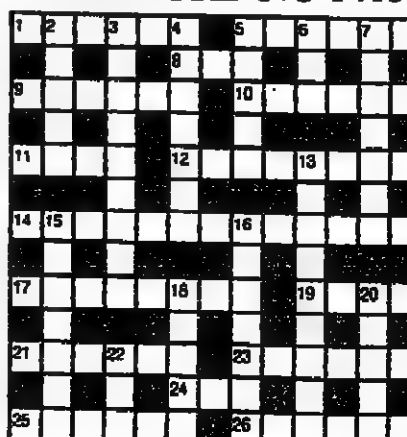
Dieppe also has a fruit terminal, where a new 3,500 square metre cold warehouse will be completed soon; two processing plants for sunflower seed oil; and an export trade in French timber from the Bassin Duquesne.

Dieppe calculates that it is likely to be a net loser from the Channel Tunnel, but the loss of rail passengers in transit is a chance to provide ferry facilities that will attract more day-trippers and short-break holidaymakers.

Robin Young

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1415

ACROSS
1 Frightened (6)
5 Prinks (6)
8 Regret (3)
9 Upper US chamber (6)
10 Deep shock (6)
11 Gull-chasing seabird (4)
12 Harshly critical (8)
14 Symphonic Fantastique composer (6,7)
17 Useless fish type (8)
19 Match (4)
21 Parisian ruffian (6)
23 Thrilled (6)
24 Intention (3)
25 Gasoline (6)
26 Join (6)



DOWN
2 Abnormal event (5)
3 Fine-grained gypsum (9)
4 Actor's servant (7)
5 "Rose-red" city (5)

6 Commercial TV body (1,1,1)
7 Allspice (7)
13 Last Supper bowl (4,5)
15 Overshadow (7)
16 Drastic (7)
18 Perfect (5)
20 Hunt assemblies (5)
22 Auto (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1414
ACROSS: 1 Hubbub 5 Host 8 Taffy 9 Umbrage 11 Optimism
13 Snub 15 Ogden Nash 18 Oryx 19 Eggplant 22 Messina 23 Bluff
24 Byre 25 Scream
DOWN: 2 Unfit 3 Bay 4 Blues and Grays 5 Hobo 6 Slauch
7 Stoop 10 Ebbs 12 Mole 14 Dump 15 Odyssey 16 Boom
17 Staff 20 Aruba 21 Mire 23 Bur

THE CAMPER.

Le Camping, thought Michael would be fine if it wasn't for two things: Le rain and Le Camping-Shop.

"M'sieur?"

"Um..." All he could see were frightful-looking black puddings and a box of toadstools which appeared to have a wasps' nest in it. Thankfully, inspiration struck.

RICARD

"Une bouteille de Ricard, s'il vous plaît."

Composing a shopping list would be quite tolerable with a long glass of the perfect Pastis beside one. He hopped over a large frog and prayed Susan had put a jug of water in the ingenious miniature fridge.

1 PART RICARD TO 5 PARTS WATER OR YOUR FAVOURITE MIXER... AND ALWAYS WITH ICE.

RICARD

Le vrai Pastis de Marseille

صباحنا من الامم

FROM
BORDEAUX

Michel is the
typical citizen of
Bordeaux. A British
citizen whose
grandfather
was one of the best
in the German
mother was
Danish, and he
came a prince of
the wine trade, par-
ticularly Chateau
living at the
Hotel.

known in the
Bordeaux. In
from a distant
the same name,
New York.

always been an
committed pro-
the business of
exciting, be-
nate objective of
ation throughout
ing to create the
g market in the
ve past, our dif-
ve always been
re us; now we are
how very much
common."

his British wife,
she was a nurse.
There are six
children. Allan, the
second, had his schooling
went to the Univer-
Anglia in Norwich,
qualifying as a
accountant. "There
to be wonderful
for bilingual
with the British
qualification,
probably in France
national company,"
says.

now working in the
city's London office,
a private school in
and had three years

certainly
2 is being
are talked
about in
France.

nor public school in
James, who now
in the company on the
side, was schooled in
France but worked for
months in Australia.

was also educated in
but went on to ap-
college to study vi-
and has since served
of a winemaking
relationship with clients
in France.

and, the youngest boy, is
now in his father's
business and his father
he will go on to a
course at Cambridge
in France, or more
in the United States,
which education is re-
quired, and the younger boy
will be in the same
business, but no certain-
ly, and very little
contact.

Michel's daughter, Robert,
is a young woman who
and, her father says, is
a very fine French
woman.

Michel is a happy man,
and the moment I see
him in Bordeaux, I know
where I wanted to be.
I want to live, and breathe
the life.

certainly 1987 is his
talking about in France,
ably as a political move.
moderation. People are
what the politicians are
now is exactly what
I have wanted in recent
years ago. Instead of be-
ing on from day to day, all
is to come.

Robin Young

TOMORROW
A citizen's
guide to the
new Europe

WORD NO 1415

Eurotunnel Share Offer on now



A breakthrough
for Britain

What is Eurotunnel, exactly?

It's the private sector group formed to build and operate the first ever fixed link between Britain and the Continent: the Channel Tunnel.

How long is the Share Offer on for?

The share price was announced yesterday, and the offer will end on Friday, 27th November 1987.

How can shares be bought?

Everyone who telephones the Eurotunnel Share Information Office will be sent a mini prospectus and application form. Copies of the prospectus will be available from tomorrow at all UK branches of National

Westminster Bank, Midland Bank, Bank of Scotland and Ulster Bank. The prospectus and application form will also be published in the national press tomorrow.

Will there be travel privileges?

Yes. They'll be for individuals who buy shares in the offer and hold on to them. In return for an annual registration fee of about £10 (at July 1987 prices), these shareholders will be able to travel by Eurotunnel shuttles with a vehicle and everyone in it for just £1 each way. The number of £1 trips will depend upon how many shares individual shareholders buy and hold (see table). Further details are contained in the prospectus.

No. of shares	Entitlement
100	One return shuttle trip to be taken within 12 months of the System opening.
500	One return shuttle trip per year for the first ten years of operation.
1,000	Two return shuttle trips per year until the end of the Concession period in 2042.
1,500	An unlimited number of shuttle trips until the end of the Concession period.

What will the shares cost?

The share price is 350p, and the minimum investment is 100 shares costing £350.

How do I find out more?

By telephoning 0272 277 007. You'll be under no obligation.

We'll send you a mini prospectus and application form, together with a reply-paid envelope in which you can return your application and cheque, if you decide to invest. Alternatively, look in your national newspaper or go to any of the banks listed above and ask for a prospectus.

Phone:
0272 277 007

**Eurotunnel Share Offer
ends on Friday, 27th November 1987**

Issued by Robert Fleming & Co. Limited, Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited and S.G. Warburg & Co. Ltd. on behalf of Eurotunnel P.L.C. and Eurotunnel S.A.

THE TIMES DIARY

Economic realities

What will Sir Robert Armstrong, currently battling in a New Zealand courtroom to stop the publication of *Spycatcher*, do next? He retires as Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Civil Service on December 31, and despite his expressed wish to find new work has not taken up any other appointment. Disappointed that he was pipped for the presidency of Trinity College, Oxford, by Sir John Burgh of the British Council, who ranks below him in the Civil Service, Sir Robert may try to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor, William, later Lord, Armstrong — he took the chairmanship of Midland Bank. But acquiring top City jobs may prove more difficult these days since Norman Tebbit has taken the plum ones. Sir Robert, who achieved notoriety when he admitted to being "economical with the truth" over Peter Wright's book, may have to fill in time choosing a title after he becomes a peer in the New Year list. After all, he won't want to follow William in that respect.

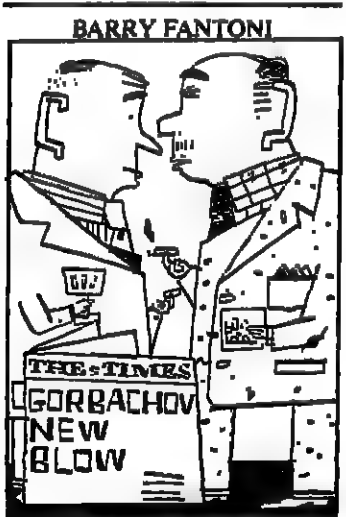
Barry's girl

The chequered past of one candidate for the vice-chairmanship of CND should cause some intrigue when delegates cast their votes this weekend. Marjorie Thompson, the campaign's former parliamentary officer who is now working for Ann Clwyd MP, may wish to draw a veil over her American youth. From conservative stock, she canvassed for Arizona right-winger Barry Goldwater during his presidential bid in 1964, worked for a Republican congressman on Capitol Hill and was among the Californian mob at Reagan's glittering inaugural ball at the Kennedy Centre in 1981. The following year she came to Britain to work at the US military base in Scotland, Holy Loch. That, however, is where she turned.

David Steel is to tackle the Tories in public. The Liberal leader has agreed to take part in a 24-hour piano duel marathon at the Royal Festival Hall next Monday to raise money for Aids charities. Since there appears to be a vacancy for a partner, perhaps SDP leader Bob Maudslayi, who plays a number of instruments, should volunteer. It would give him a chance to blow his own trumpet.

Stalking horse

BBC television producers in Manchester are crossing their fingers that their choice of presenter for a planned documentary series about the police will not put off too many potential interviewees. The frontman for *The Police We Deserve* is to be John Stalker, deputy chief constable of Greater Manchester, until his unhappy resignation last year. For the past two months the BBC has been attempting to persuade the Association of Chief Police Officers to allow police chiefs to be interviewed by their former colleague. "We are still in full and frank negotiations with the association," says editor Colin Cameron, full of hope.



Fidofax

Pavlov certainly demonstrated the truth about dogs when he showed their propensity to salivate at the ringing of a bell. A Surrey vet tells me of a client who administered tranquillisers to her petted pooch during the firework season. After a few nights the dog, on hearing the first bang of the evening, looked expectantly at the drawer where the pills were kept. Seeing an addiction in the making, the owner gave him a piece of sugar. The beast took to his basket, happy and relaxed, and not a whimper was heard.

High handed

The Post Office is awaiting a deluge of letters from Disgusted of Tunbridge Wells. It is using the town's picturesque high street in advertisements to illustrate the fact that post offices stay open later than banks. The only trouble is that the town's post office is not in the high street but in a side street half a mile away. The Post Office sign appearing in the ad under a clock reading 3.31 was merely fastened to the side of a jewellers' shop for the sake of the photograph. Like the pillar box plonked on the pavement that same summer afternoon, it has long since been removed. "We wondered when someone would notice," confesses the PO.

PHS

One big question of Mrs Thatcher's third term is whether our system of government can cope with big inter-departmental issues. We have seen the problem already over regeneration of the inner cities, which has lost its impetus in Whitehall-fighting. Now there is a similar problem over the government's proposed crime-fighting organization.

Fighting crime is not simply a matter of employing more police, building more prisons and imposing tougher sentences. It means designing better housing estates and teaching people to thief-proof their homes and vehicles. It also means finding ways to overcome the boredom of rootless young people and inculcating a greater sense of social responsibility before they leave school. So it means crossing those precious inter-departmental boundaries which some civil servants patrol with the intensity of SS guards.

Ministers are currently boasting of the record £11 million which the Home Office is to spend over three years on its new crime prevention campaign. But that is dwarfed by the £35 million a year allocated for crime prevention work to the Training Commission (formerly the Manpower Services Commission) under its Community Programme. Another £27 million is spent for the same purposes by the Department of the Environment.

Steven Norris, a successful businessman and a Tory MP until he lost his seat in June and David Birley, a crime consultant at the Home Office since 1985, are now drawing up a report for the Home Secretary on how best to set up a

Wanted: an anti-crime mastermind

by Robin Oakley

Political Editor

national crime prevention organization. "How can you deal with crime departmentally when it involves things as different as poor housing, lack of jobs and better street lighting?" they ask. They want a central focus, perhaps a national commission, which can tie all the elements together.

Already, however, civil servants outside the Home Office are grouping to resist any inroads on their budgets. In Whitehall money means status, and woe betide any minister who surrenders a chunk of what his civil servants regard as the source of their department's status and authority.

Inter-departmental co-operation on crime prevention does, in theory, exist. A ministerial group meets regularly and has just published its first report. But Norris and Birley say: "Usually, with inter-departmental groups, every minister goes along with a defensive brief to make sure he doesn't give away any ground — as happened on inner cities. What we

need is a new body with a higher profile to harness all the resources in a coherent way."

They are not suggesting that the Home Office should take over the money used on crime prevention by other departments. "We don't want to remove a responsibility for crime prevention from other departments, far from it. We are very keen their commitment should be developed. But we do question whether the price of that commitment should be the rather ill-directed and disparate system of funding that there is."

In other departments support for crime prevention initiatives is stronger in theory than in fact. Education ministers, for example, accept the need in principle for more social responsibility to be taught in schools. But those who ask how the new core curriculum could be used to help in crime prevention are fobbed off with generalities. The whole thing is being pushed through so fast, and has so many other complications,

that ministers don't have time to cope with this added problem.

The Employment Department and the Training Commission must also be brought in. Norris and Birley ask: "What happens to youngsters who try, and fail, to break into the newly secured property in a Neighbourhood Watch area. Do they go and sign up at the church youth club instead? A comprehensive approach must have some answer to meeting the needs of young people and channelling them into socially acceptable objectives."

But where is the comprehensive approach to come from? In the case of the inner cities, Mrs Thatcher has insisted on taking over the chairmanship of the relevant cabinet committee. But she is already being criticized within the Cabinet for assuming too big a workload. She cannot run every committee concerned with problems that are larger than the scope of a single government department.

"The Prime Minister has to break through the problem of territoriality," Norris and Birley say. They are surely right. If all the brave hopes of this "Social Affairs Parliament" are to be realized, a method has to be found of lifting heads in Whitehall above the parapets of single departments.

"It's pathetic that we have made such small inroads into the statistics of recorded crime, never mind the massive amount of unrecorded crime," says Norris. The public, distracted by other issues, has forgiven the Tories for their comparative failure on that front for the last two elections. It may not be so kind again.

Russia's new tune abroad



Robert Legvold, in the first of two articles, considers the economic and international pressures — and Gorbachov's own reformist leanings — that have led to a radical rethink on Soviet foreign policy

Western leaders. But does the change reach beyond tactics and style to affect something truly substantial, such as the purposes of policy or the assumptions on which policy is based? Is the Soviet mind changing in ways that are important to the interests of the US and its allies? My answer to all these questions is yes.

Like other periods of accelerated conceptual adaptation — for example, Lenin's accommodation to the failure of the European revolution and Khrushchev's adjustment to the reality of nuclear weapons — Gorbachov's passage is of great potential significance. Only the first hints of the change are yet apparent, but if the evolution continues, and if it comes to affect policy more deeply, the Gorbachov era will turn out to be one of the great turning points in the history of Soviet foreign policy.

Gorbachov's "new thinking" can be divided into four categories. The first is Gorbachov's reworked concept of security. First, he has introduced a much broader and more diffuse notion of national security; this, he has been saying since early 1986,

involves many elements, only some of which are military. In the modern world national well-being, he argues, is often as much a matter of economic security as of military security; threats to stability are often as much political and economic as they are martial; and arms are often a poor and weak response to most security challenges facing the state.

Secondly, he is the first Soviet leader to concede the link between national and mutual security. "Today," he said on Soviet television last August, "one's own security cannot be ensured without taking into account the security of other states and peoples. There can be no genuine security unless it is equal for all and comprehensive." His reason is neither abstract nor excessively high-minded. As he had earlier explained to the party congress, when others do not feel secure "the fears and anxieties of the nuclear age generate unpredictability and concrete actions."

Gorbachov's second major conceptual contribution has been his notion of interdependence as perhaps the basic dynamic in international relations. Politics

among nations, he seems to be arguing, has been transformed by the interweaving of societies and the emergence of problems exceeding the capacity of any nation or alliance of nations to solve autonomously.

The realities of the modern world, according to him, belittle the frontiers separating one society from another and setting one social system against another. They are realities, he comes close to saying, that also diminish the historic competition between East and West or, at least, primitive versions of it.

The third area of innovation concerns the Third World. One senses that for Gorbachov and his colleagues this has sunk lower among their priorities. Their attention is focused elsewhere, reflecting a tighter and more hard-nosed definition of Soviet interests. For Gorbachov, the Third World has become a far less inviting place, one filled with headaches and troubles capable of embroiling the superpowers and spilling over to contaminate whole areas of foreign policy.

It has also become a place where the Soviet Union spends more of its time these days defending embattled clients against counter-revolutionary onslaught than promoting the "national liberation struggle". While his predecessors had already begun to absorb the fact that Soviet ventures in the Third World would disrupt relations with the US, Gorbachov is the first to begin grappling with what this realization means for any future détente with the US.

The fourth category concerns socialist relations. With the Euro-communists, Gorbachov's tendency has been to play down the sources of ideological tension and strike a pose of patience and broadmindedness.

How far the same element of tolerance goes in the case of the East Europeans is less clear. On the one hand, Gorbachov and his spokesmen pay homage to the reality, albeit not to the virtue, of diversity within the socialist "commonwealth", and they pledge themselves to respect the right of their East European colleagues to find their own answers to their own problems. On the other hand he is less and less hesitant to bring news of the great experiment under way in the Soviet Union and to offer it as something of a parable. Significantly, however, under Gorbachov even oblique references to the Brezhnev Doctrine have ceased, and one has the impression that East European leaders now have more elbow room than ever before, perhaps even in the sphere of foreign policy.

The author is Director of the W. Averell Harriman Institute for the Advanced Study of the Soviet Union, Columbia University, New York. This article is an edited extract of a paper given at a recent meeting of the Institute of East-West Studies.

TOMORROW

The Western response

Terms of assembly have been broken down into various categories. If you want to play at Aristotle and categorize:

- Ancient phrases making medieval comments: an abomination of monks, an exaltation of larks, an incredulity of cuckolds.
- Onomatopoeia: a murmuration of swallows, a gaggle of geese.
- Collectives made by adding an ending such as -y or -age: froggery, brigandage.
- Characteristics, insults, comments, editorialization: a pride of lions, a skulk of foxes.
- Habit: a warren or bury of rabbits, a shoal of minnows.
- Appearance: a turmoil of porpoises, a bouquet of pheasants.
- Comment: a murder of crows, a cowardice of curs.
- Mistake: a singular (sangler) of boars, a school (shoal) of fish, a charm (from the archaic "chirm", i.e. jokers) of goldfinches.
- Chatter and puns: an anthology of pros, a failing of students, an ex cathedra of professors emeriti, a cancellation of trains because of an earlier incident on the Circle Line, a rip-off of repair-men, a faction of reporters.

Ben Pimlott

When talent is shackled

The recent award of a literary prize to an author who has never been able to use his hands for the physical act of writing presents the able-bodied with a challenge. If some of the best minds exist within bodies that deny them expression, should not the rest of us be doing more, for our own sakes, to make good the deficiency?

This year's winner of the Whitbread Prize for biography and autobiography, Christy Nolan, was born with cerebral palsy and has never been able to walk, talk or hold a pen. At 11 he was taught to type by pressing the keyboard of a word processor with a pointer attached to his head.

Nolan's autobiography, *Under the Eye of the Clock*, is not a tragic tale. It is a book about hope, love, effort and steady ambition. Here is a foreign land, yet also a familiar one: of ordinary affections, desires and pleasures, silently sustained within the worst of all possible prisons. It is a book that raises basic questions about the subject's nature of misfortune. Nolan's tale holds a special terror for most of us. Yet it is one, on this evidence, that has contained fulfilment and happiness.

Blind people are said to have a heightened sense of touch. Nolan's silence and immobility seem to have sharpened his powers of observation. *Under the Eye of the Clock* is remarkable not because it is a normal book by a disabled man but because it is an abnormal one, exploring aspects of human existence hidden to the rest of us.

One reason why the multiply handicapped have seldom written good books is that few imagined they could do it and so the aspiration received little encouragement. Another was that they lacked the tools.

Both of these are changing. That Nolan should have triumphed where others similarly handicapped at birth have remained helpless and unresponsive was partly a product of lucky coincidence; on the one hand a determined, devoted family, on the other the interest and involvement of specialists, teachers and friends. But, in addition, Nolan was introduced to technological devices at an early enough age to enable him to use his limited capacity for movement in order to write the language he could hear, read and understand.

In the past few years — since Nolan grew up — equipment has rapidly advanced. Modern developments in gadgetry include a voice synthesizer that enables the user to simulate a range of words; voice-recognition devices which can translate into type the words of people who are able to speak but not to move; and equipment that can be operated by eye movements alone. All these machines are still in their infancy; the scope for progress is immense. Micro-technology in this field might be compared with crystal sets in the history of wireless telegraphy.

Meanwhile, there are many needs: for more research, in

universities, through direct government funding, or by private industry; a few crumbs from the research budget of, say, an electronics manufacturer could go far towards helping children with special communications requirements. There is a need for reader access, in all parts of the country, to such equipment as already exists; and a need for a greater provision of specialist doctors, therapists, psychologists, teachers and social workers and, crucially, for the instruction of parents, in order to make possible the painstaking education and training which the use of the appropriate hardware involves.

The most urgent need of all is for better and more co-ordinated assessment. The 1981 Education Act requires local education authorities to provide a statement of need for each handicapped child, and to act on the basis of it. In practice, however, "educational" needs are artificially separated from assessment for face-to-face communication, which is the responsibility of the DHSS. It may not be accidental that this year's success story should be Irish; Nolan was able to benefit from the multi-disciplinary teamwork of the Central Remedial Clinic in Dublin. In the UK, the only assessment body looking at all the needs of the client is the ACE centre in Oxford (with a small offshoot in the North-west). Opened three years ago ACE has seen 500 children and has a six-month waiting list. Equivalent regional centres are needed all over Britain.

Two children in every thousand are born with cerebral palsy. There are many others with similar afflictions, as well as accident victims and sufferers from acquired diseases. A high proportion can benefit from special training and equipment. Hundreds, if not thousands, of young people of university potential are at present unable to reach the necessary standard because their abilities were not identified and developed at the right stage.

The prospect of these and others gaining a modicum of independence and playing a productive part in society is not an impossible dream. The means are there. What is needed is the will. There are few votes in the severely disabled. Equally, a cost-conscious government should consider the advantages of making this investment. There is the possibility of enabling children to stay with their families, even of attending normal schools and colleges, instead of living in expensive residential homes. More broadly, there are the advantages of integrating people with problems, instead of hiding them. But above all there is the exciting contribution which disabled people — not just those with exceptional talents — can make to the lives of all of us.

The author is Professor of Politics and Contemporary History at Birkbeck College, London. He chaired the panel of judges for the biography and autobiography category of the Whitbread Awards.

however... Henry Stanhope

That glorious pre-teen era

Teenagers now care less about love than money, according to an opinion poll last week. It wasn't like that in my day. The survey, by the advertising agency McCann Erickson, showed the present lot to be practical, hard-working and eager for advancement in the City. We weren't.

It's a difficult point to verify because nobody bothered to ask us at the time. I was reared before the "Teen Age" was invented. One day you were a schoolboy, callow and overawed, with Waterman's blue-black ink-stained fingers. The next you were a grown-up with a mortgage, a Ford Popular and a carry-over. There was never this twilight area in the middle.

In those years, I cannot once remember anyone asking me what I thought. No pollster, clip-board in hand, stopped me to probe my innermost views on love and marriage, my preference for bitter or mild or whether I wanted to denationalize the railways. We grew up like cuckoos in someone else's nest, gorging and gawping fledglings, until one day we stepped out and flew.

Churchill was back as Prime Minister, Dr Fisher was Archbishop of Canterbury (what would he have made of gay vicars?) and the country was learning to sing "God Save the Queen". It was a period in which so much changed, and yet everything seemed so immutable, as the nation recovered its breath and its equilibrium after the war.

It was not that we were trying to put the clock back — indeed few could remember the time before it stopped. Nor were we in any way irresponsible. We were carelessly, joyously irresponsible because nobody seemed to want us to be anything else. We were simply in the business of growing up.

I say I cannot remember what we thought. In truth I cannot remember thinking anything at all except about girls, more girls and Derby County. The Coal and Steel Community, Stalin's death and the fall of King Farouk were as nothing compared with seeing Compton bat at Lord's.

I certainly can't remember thinking much about making money. Money was something one earned as birds caught worms

or as chickens pecked for corn in the farm next door. I opened my first pay packet (a small manilla envelope containing eight crisp £1 notes) with mild surprise. Indeed, I am still gratified that anyone pays me anything at all.

Not many of us were devoted to good works. Few wanted to go off to Central Africa or work among the underprivileged at home. There were no peace movements, no "community" fixation and no over-riding concern for human rights. No processions of bearded anoraks shuffled on damp Sundays to Hyde Park, demanding the overthrow of distant governments — as well as our own. The only student demonstration I took part in was to press for a bonfire site on Guy Fawkes night.

It was not that we lacked ideals and were uncaring. It was simply that after the war there seemed to be nothing left to fight for that couldn't wait. Things were somehow going to get better, given time. Meanwhile...

It was the 1960s crowd, not ours, who gave teenagers a generation of their own. Inspired by the Beatles and Mary Quant, and exploited by a lot of sharp-suited marketing men, they actually thought that the people out there were listening. "Make Love Not War" said their banners. Well yes, we would have agreed with that, but we never really thought the point worth making. And we would certainly never have publicly cried "Make Money", like the lot now running up to take the baton. It was not that we had any money, but that we were willing to wait until we had.

For all our apparent indolence, our reluctant, blundering trip into adult-ery, life in those austere years seemed much more fun. It was a world of Odeon queues and Stanley Matthews, of speedway and Saturday dances — at which girls wore frocks and boys best suits, and bandmen in bow ties played tenor saxophones. The sound of a slow foxtrots in the night can still stir greying memories of those years.

I think they were more fun because we didn't grow up too quickly, and didn't think too hard until we had to. I'm not sure that I want to even now...

Mr Ken Livingstone yesterday chose only the eighth day after the Enniskillen massacre to predict — with a hint of a gloat — that Britain would be driven out of Northern Ireland by the IRA. And, at this of all times, he used the weasel formula — favoured by his Sinn Féin friends — of including a condemnation of IRA violence only within a general condemnation of all violence in the Province, including that of loyalists and “the British State”.

He knows that such remarks as yesterday's revolt and outrage most other people — including most Labour voters and most Labour MPs. But they do not have that effect on many Labour constituency activists. It is to them he is appealing at the moment. Anyone who can outrage the majority of the electorate, particularly the middle-classes, and become a hated figure in the "Tory media", is all right with them.

Doubtless, once he has used the votes of fools and fanatics to get himself as far as such votes can take anyone in the Labour Party, he will betray those followers. He will depict himself to the wider electorate as a moderate, in the hope of going on to even greater things. In this tactic, he is unlikely to be successful.

COMMISSIONERS OF CHARITY

The Government has in recent years encouraged private citizens to give time and money, for the purpose of social service. Mr Bob Geldof has received various seals of approval for his work. The administrative framework within which people give and charities spend is, however, unsatisfactory. In fact it is intolerable that the good will of gift-givers rests on such a flimsy set of fiduciary controls.

Official thoughts turned earlier this year, apparently, to the abolition of the Commission. What should it be replaced by, however? The Inland Revenue has too many other duties for it to be turned into an assessor of charities in general, essential though its role is in tracking and prosecuting charity frauds. While the Charity Commission has been failing in one of its tasks, that of reassuring the public that their giving will be received in good faith, it has the capacity to improve its performance. It must be made to do so.

REGRETS ONLY

The episode should be of longer term concern to Italians none the less. Since the end of Bettino Craxi's relatively long-running government eight months ago, Italian politics have resumed a familiar pattern. It had looked as if, in Signor Giovanni Goria, the country had found a leader for his time - a youngish politician used to handling government finance, with a preference for consultation not confrontation.

Under such circumstances, it is understandable that Signor Cossiga's main concern was to rescue the administration he had so painfully helped to build. If there is one thing Italy is not a country with a shaky government.

But what of a Labour Chief Whip dependent on election by the Parliamentary Labour Party? This is the great change which has overtaken the office in recent years. An elected Chief Whip is a contradiction in terms — like an elected headmaster or an elected traffic warden. He is not the man to deal with Mr Livingstone. So that man has to be Mr Kinnock — who, while he is about it, should also deal with Mr Foster.

That day ought to come soon. For the time being, the Government should look on the expenditures necessary to make the Commission function better as an investment. As long as the expansion of charitable giving remains an object of policy (and long may it be so) then the Government should will the means to encourage the public in its belief that charitable money is well looked after. In addition, a more active Charity Commission may well pay for itself by preventing unjust claims for tax and rate reliefs.

A political crisis in Rome, in itself neither unusual nor unmanageable, may be distorted by a cancellation of this kind — the first by a visiting head of state in 25 years. At a time when Italy needs to retain and boost international confidence, an action of this kind is unfortunate.

modern standard Arabic as well as Egyptian colloquial Arabic as part of our BA degree in Arabic and Islamic studies for many years. Modern Arabic language and literature forms a substantial part of our degree course. We were, furthermore, successful in gaining

correcting a judge on a point of law before. It's really rather satisfying.
Yours faithfully,
VERNON COLEMAN,
Preston House, Kentisbury,
Barnstaple, Devon.
November 12.

A most happy and apposite coincidence surely?
Yours faithfully,
JOHN HUGHES,
Three Ways,
Hinton on the Green,
Evesham, Worcestershire.

a night's rest if I have to go out in the dark; but as I said before, I am perfectly well, thank God! . . . must say that the enemy have stuck to their guns better than I thought they would. I have got quite accustomed to camp life . . .

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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 16: The Queen this evening honoured with her presence the World Premiere of the film *Melba* in aid of the Leukemia League of 365 and the Equine Committee of the Animal Health Trust at the Canon Cinema, Shaftesbury Avenue.

Her Majesty was received by the Joint Chairman of the Premiere Committee (Lady Rose Nevill and the Lady Howard de Walden).

Mrs Robert de Pass, Mr Kenneth Scott and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Member of the Court of Assistants of the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers, this morning visited Gresham's School, Holt, where his Royal Highness opened Edinburgh House and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

The Duke of Edinburgh was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Norfolk (Mr Timothy Colman) and the Chairman of the Board of Governors (Mr J. Norton).

Major Rowan Jackson, RM was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, Senior Fellow of the Fellowship of Engineering, this evening attended the New Fellows dinner at Apothecaries' Hall.

The Duke of Edinburgh was received by the President (Sir Denis Rooke) and the Executive Secretary (Mr John Osola).

Brigadier Clive Robertson was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 16: The Prince of Wales, President, the Prince of Wales, Advisory Group on Disability, this afternoon opened the John Groom's Housing Association Scheme, Wyllye Lodge, Wilton, near Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Mr Humphrey Mews was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, President, Business in the Community, this evening attended a reception for the Centenary of the Royal Air Force at Lancaster House, London SW1.

The Hon Rupert Fairfax was in attendance.

The Prince and Princess of Wales this evening attended a charity performance by Barry Humphries of his new show *Back With a Vengeance*, in aid of the Royal Marsden Hospital Cancer Fund, at the Strand Theatre, Aldwych, London WC2.

Mrs George West and the Hon Rupert Fairfax were in attendance.

The Princess of Wales this morning attended the departure of the British Airways staff "Dreamlight" to Disneyworld, for children with special needs, from Heathrow Airport, London.

Mrs Max Pike and Commander Richard Aylard, RN were in attendance.

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November 16: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, as Patron, today visited the Ulster Hospital, Dundonald, Belfast, to mark the occasion of the Hospital's 25th Anniversary.

Her Royal Highness, as Deputy Command-in-Chief (Nursing), St John Ambulance Brigade, and Patron of the Multiple Sclerosis Society, was present at a Reception at Parliament Buildings, Belfast.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, attended by Mrs Michael Harvey and Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland, travelled in an aircraft of No 32 Squadron, Royal Air Force Northolt.

Mr Charles and Lady Katherine Farrel regret that they were unable to attend the memorial service for the Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne held on Thursday, November 12, in the Guards Chapel.

Appointments
Mr J.A. Shepherd to be Ambassador to Bahrain, in succession to Mr F.S.E. Trew, who will be retiring from the Diplomatic Service.

Rear Admiral N.R.D. King to be promoted Vice-Admiral and to be Chief of Staff to Commander Alick Naval Forces Southern Europe, in succession to Vice-Admiral Sir Patrick Symons in June 1988.

Major-General P.A.M. Tighe to be Chairman of the Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society, in succession to Air Vice-Marshal C.V. Winn.

Mr Alan G. Casser to be President of the Rating and Valuation Association.

Monty's brother unveils blue plaque



A blue plaque marking Viscount Montgomery of Alamein's birthplace at St Mark's Vicarage, Kennington, south London, was unveiled yesterday by the wartime leader's brother, Lieutenant-Colonel Brian Montgomery, and his granddaughter, the Hon Mrs Arabella Stuart-Smith (above). Today is the centenary of Monty's birth. (Photograph: Harry Kerr)

Marriages

Sir Edgar Vaughan and Mrs M. Sayers
The marriage of Sir Edgar Vaughan and Mrs Mary Sayers took place on November 12 at St Andrew's United Reformed Church, Chesham, Surrey.

Mr G.R.C. Elston and Miss L.M. Poland
The marriage took place on Saturday, at St Mary's, Cadogan Street, Chelsea, of Mr Chandos Elston, younger son of the late Mr D.H. Elston, of Parrox Hall, Lancashire, to Miss Lucy Poland, daughter of Mr and Mrs Dina Poland, of London and Cape Town, born Martin.

Brigadier Clive Robertson was in attendance.

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Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.P. Spayne and Miss J.S. Morpeth
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs Martin Spayne, of Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, and Jane, daughter of Sir Douglas and Lady Morpeth of Sharnley Green, Guildford, Surrey.

Mr J.L.A. Davis and Miss K.J. Summers
The engagement is announced between Josse, son of Mr and Mrs Derek Davis, of Arundel, Sussex, and Kathryn Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Summers, of Littlehampton, Sussex.

Mr S.W. Dench and Miss A.C. Lohm
The engagement is announced between Stewart Warwick, only son of Mr and Mrs W. Dench, of Chislehurst, Kent, and Amanda Claire, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs C.W. Lohm, of Sheffield, Essex.

Mr P.W.J. Edmundson and Miss D. Saffell
The engagement is announced between Patrick, elder son of Dr and Mrs W.L. Edmundson, of Dial Farm, Earl Soham, Suffolk, and Debbie, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs T.E. Saffell, of Rookery Farm, Grundsburg, Suffolk.

Mr D.A. Gillan and Miss C.L. Brierley
The engagement is announced between Douglas, younger son of Mr and Mrs A.J.A. Gillan, of Wimbledon, London, and Carol, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Brierley, presently of Islamabad, Pakistan.

Mr M.V. Long and Miss J.M. Parkyn
The engagement is announced between Mark, eldest son of Mr and Mrs V.F. Long, of Crofton, Surrey, and Janine, daughter of Dr and Mrs D.M. Parkyn, of Woddon, Cheshire.

Mr A.J. Lunn and Miss L. Somerville
The engagement is announced between Anthony John, only son of Mr and Mrs Don Lunn, of Ealing, London, and Lynne, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Somerville, of Belfast.

Mr M. Ward and Miss B.J. Manson
The engagement is announced between Merlin, elder son of Mr Guy Ward, of Wivenhoe, Essex, and of Mrs Jean Peers, of Fiddlinghoe, Sussex, and Benita, elder daughter of Mr Louis Manson, of Rivermead Court, London, SW6, and of Mrs Pamela Manson, of Hightrees House, London, SW15.

Mr W.H.G. Warrington and Miss J.E. Beresford
The engagement is announced between Hugh, only son of Mr and Mrs H.P. Warrington, of Colchester, Essex, and Jane, elder daughter of Mr P.A. Beresford, of St Brelade, Jersey, and Mrs J. Robson, of Bampton, Devon.

Mr S.L. Bragg, aeronautical engineer, 64; Dr G. Bulmer, former rector, Liverpool Polytechnic, 67; General Sir Philip Christian, 94; Mr Peter Cook, actor and writer, 50; Mr Michael Freeman, orthopaedic surgeon, 56; Colonel Sir Alastair Graesser, 72; the Rev Dr Kenneth Grange, former president, Methodist Conference, 69; Sir Patrick Hamilton, company chairman, 79; Mr Colin Hayes, painter, 68; Mr J.L. Lowther, Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire, 64; Sir Charles Mackerras, conductor, 62; Sir Geoffrey Messervy, former chairman, Lucas Industries, 63; Sir Leslie Murphy, chairman, Petroleum Economics, 72; Lord Polwarth, 71; the Right Rev John Satterthwaite, Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe, 62; the Right Rev Cyril Tucker, former Bishop of the Falkland Islands, 76.

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Lord Mayor's Banquet

The Lord Mayor, Sir Greville Spratt, accompanied by Lady Spratt, the Sheriffs and their ladies, entertained the outgoing Lord Mayor, Sir David Rowland, and Lady Rowland-Ham, at a banquet in Guildhall last night.

The Lord Mayor, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, the Prime Minister and Sir David Rowland-Ham were the speakers. Others present included:

Mr J.M.A. Northover and Dr L.P. Granshaw
The engagement is announced between John, elder son of Mr and Mrs W.J. Northover, of Portsmouth, Hampshire, and Lindsay, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Charles Granshaw, of Worthing, Sussex.

Mr R.M. O'Donnell and Miss E.J. Coleman
The engagement is announced between Robin, son of Mr and Mrs Brian O'Donnell, of Tokyo and Harpenden, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Coleman, of Orpington and Tilip.

Mr B.L. Phillips and Miss S.C. Meyrick
The engagement is announced between Ben, younger son of Mr and Mrs J.M. Phillips, of Wimborne, Dorset, and Sarah, daughter of Dr and Mrs J.S. Meyrick, of Great Rissington, Gloucestershire.

Mr S. Vivan and Miss K. Wright
The engagement is announced between Stephen, only son of Mr and Mrs M. John Vivan, of Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire, and Karen, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs William Wright, of Malawau, New Jersey, United States.

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Humour out of misery

We have always made merry with the misery of others. The problem has been deciding who is fair game. In an era of more "enlightened" sensibilities, humour has, in some ways, gained taboos almost as much as it has lost them.

Old jokes, however, are remarkably resilient. And just when you think that Benny Hill's extremely tired sketch about "Leprechaun TV" has finally shown that such humour has run its course, the Garda's bungling of the "Fox

TELEVISION

Hunt" comes along to feed the stand-ups with lines for a thousand new Irish jokes.

Last night, two programmes showed the misery of the human condition. One was an *Open Space* programme (BBC 2) aimed straight at the heart strings, the other was Channel 4's latest comedy series, *Intended*, no doubt, for the funny bone. In one we heard how a tyrannical warden of a council hostel for pensioners tried to get hold of a cattle-proof to torture the inmates; in the other, Filipino maids did a version of the Monty Python sketch about "My conditions being worse than Yours".

Of course, the first, *Never Say Die*, was the comedy. The second, *Domestic Slavery*, a deeply disturbing documentary about maids who are brought to work here illegally by rich, non-British employers who then imprison, abuse, starve and even, on occasion, rape them. If they run away, however, they risk being deported. It was not funny.

But then not to be abusing old people is a bundle of laughs. Comic genius, as shown in *Septimo*, or *Fawcett Towers*, can get away with it. *Lon Wakefield*, the writer of *Never Say Die*, tried a number of directions, including below the belt with a knee in an old man's groin, but did not quite bring it off, mainly because the contrast between the tyrannical woman warden and the new liberal one was too simplistic. *Basil Fawcett* was funny because of his vulnerability and weakness in tyranny.

Andrew Hislop

John Russell Taylor looks at four artists who are defying Britain's reluctance to buy sculpture

Shape of things to come

GALLERIES

David Begbie
Salama-Caro

William Turnbull
Waddington

Zadok Ben-David
Benjamin Rhodes

Ivor Abrahams
Bernard Jacobson

Nigel Hall
Annely Juda

Foreigners tend to assume that the British are mad about sculpture. This is understandable, since there is so much evidence of enthusiastic activity in galleries all over the world, biennales, international art fairs and the like, and no one can be unaware of the tutelary presence of Henry Moore brooding over the whole of 20th-century British art. But sadly, our sculptural prophets are more honoured abroad than at home: if there is one thing the galleries are agreed on, it is that the British do not buy sculpture, at any level from the great public commissions to the modest table piece.

In domestic terms, it seems that British collectors fight shy of sculpture because they feel it takes up so much more room, physically and psychologically, than a picture. This is perhaps one reason why David Begbie has proved one of the most successful of British sculptors on the home market. His works are so deliberately light, transparent, illusionistic, that psychologically they are almost not there.

In his latest show, which opens an elegant white box of a new gallery, the Salama-Caro, at 5/6 Cork Street (until December 5), he seems to be aiming to make his work a little more solid-looking. But not very much, and one is not surprised to learn that he is becoming increasingly interested in eliminating the solid form altogether, in favour of the shadow, the play of lights, maybe even in due course the hologram.

What we have for the moment, though, is an extension of his characteristic form, which is the modelled figure, frequently a human nude made out of fine steel mesh. His



Transparent, illusionistic, almost not there: *Restless* by David Begbie

works are actually very hardy, but they look insubstantial and fragile. In the past they have often hung free, carrying with them the air of a mobile. Now he frequently entraps them in boxes of a larger-gauge mesh, to emphasize or isolate their physicality.

He has also worked out one or two new techniques - how to make eyes, for instance - and lets more humour intrude than before, as with some slightly teasing heads, occasionally even equipped with spectacles. But he remains *sui generis*, using fully sculptural means (the sheer modelling of the mesh is no light task) to produce works which constantly fight against our ideas of mass and solidity as the essentials of sculpture.

One need only look at the rashers of red stickers as William Turnbull's show draws to its close (November 21) at Waddington, to see that Begbie is not the only current sculptor who sells. Presumably some at least of the sales must be to Brits. And it is very easy to understand why this show has been received with such enthusiasm.

The recent work is of manageable size, and makes its effect not in monumental statements, but by subtleties of surface treatment, of slight markings and patina, within a generally simple, satisfying range of shapes. It is like walking round some kind of sacred, primitive enclosure, with the totems disclosing their full meaning possibly only to the initiate, but creating an unarguable air of magic and mystery to the world at large.

If one looks, over the road, at the mini-retrospective which accompanies these new pieces, one can at once recognize the consistency and sense of purpose which have informed Turnbull's work for more than 40 years: the sculptures from 1948-62 are certainly different, but unmistakably from the same hand, and concerned with the same lasting themes.

Zadok Ben-David, round the corner at Benjamin Rhodes until December 12, is superficially quite other, but in fact his concerns are fundamentally rather similar. His materials, more modestly, are brightly coloured concrete, metal and resin, and there is a playfulness about the pieces, with their long, whimsical titles (*The Fish Who Refused to Belong*, for instance, or *Days of White Luck to the Optimist*), which somewhat belies their deeper seriousness and the frequent melancholy of their underlying emotion.

Sometimes the significance is obvious, as in *Where It All Starts*, where a frened globe of little dancing figures contains a slightly foetal yellow plastic flower at the centre, or *Too Late for the Hunter to Regret*, a kind of totem too in which the painted outline of a slaughtered deer tops a rough-cast plinth. But as with Turnbull, the full significance probably unfolds only to those who have already been initiated into the cult.

Ivor Abrahams (at Bernard Jacobson until November 28) and Nigel Hall (at Annely Juda until December 18) are both in their diverse ways traditional sculptors. Abrahams is traditional in the more obvious sense, in that Rodin or Degas would have understood completely what he is up to in his new bronzes of athletes, their difficult arched poses caught with consummate grace and skill. But as we near the end of the century, Nigel Hall's abstract constructions of bronze loops and bars seem in their own way equally traditional, and by now indeed rather too predictable. The pieces in the show are put together with Hall's characteristic skill and polish, but the flame of creative excitement burns rather low, and his related drawings are in the end much more compelling.

OPERA

Festa Teatrale
Teatro San Carlo,
Naples

If Casanova's *Memoirs* are to be believed, King Ferdinand of Naples used to enjoy pelting his subjects with hot macaroni while they listened to opera in the Teatro San Carlo. Had he been present at the theatre's 250th anniversary celebrations this month he would surely have lived up to the distinctly sober and unfestive proceedings.

The *Festa Teatrale*, conceived and directed by Roberto De Simone, turned out to be a history lesson *per musica*, opening with a cantata by Cimarosa in honour of Ferdinand's return to Naples in 1799. The composer hoped it would appease the King for his republican past, but the approach was rejected. Cimarosa fled, and the work was never performed. The lesson ended with another world premiere and ill-considered exercise in political sycophancy - the *Finale from Paisiello's I Pittagorici*, an opera written in anticipation of Napoleon's visit to Naples.

Not surprisingly, these works left a rather hollow impression instead of evoking

the past glories of the theatre for which Rossini and Donizetti wrote some of their finest music.

The rest of the *festa*, ably conducted by Gustav Kuhn, focused on extracts from operas that made Naples an unrivalled influence in 18th century Europe but which are very rarely heard today. This was risky programming - such music relies heavily on the brilliance and invention of the singers to bring it to life - and the gamble did not really pay off. Kathleen Kuhlmann coped better with the lethargic lines of Jommelli's *Aria del Sonno* than with the leaps and runs of Vinci's *Antaresse*, and Maria Angeles Peters' small voice failed to make much impact in Cini's *Semiramide*, and some of the other singers did the San Carlo no credit at all.

Only Katia Ricciarelli, in radiant form, succeeded in making vocal acrobatics a pleasure to listen to - she gave a beautifully modulated account of the multiple variations in Paisiello's "Nel cor più non mi sento".

A model of the theatre sat at the front of the stage all evening, looking as if it might be cut up and eaten at the end - but the occasion as a whole felt more like a remembrance service than a birthday party.

Nigel Jamieson

THEATRE

Long To Rain
Over Us
Haymarket Studio,
Leicester

This thoughtful and sprightly play, commissioned from the Welsh poet and playwright Dick Edwards, is set on the periphery of an unguarded prisoner of war camp in Leicestershire. Geographically, this is the centre of England, and the exact nature of the true and honest Englishman is one of the topics aired in a tightly-packed 90 minutes.

"Why don't the Irish want to be English?" muses the wooden-legged colonel (Trevor Baxter) in charge of the camp, his tender scalp protected with a knotted bandage from the unseasonably fierce sun. Since he is voicing his words in the hearing of an eccentrically resolute Irish girl, Kitty (Kate Lonergan), he gets a crisp and Celtic reply.

woman, the odd man out being Lomax, a conscientious objector also detained in the camp. When Kitty dosses down with him in the hay he turns his back, Stephen Boxer gives him the preoccupied air and rapid speech of one whose thoughts are also rapid.

An Italian and a German complete the cast, a jackbooted pair who start off close to caricatures but who develop into a beguiling double act when scheming to grab the girl and expose Lomax, with the colonel's connivance, as a fraud and coward.

The comedy in this is fresh and surprising, and the accompanying dangers come across vividly in the performances of Nicholas Henderson's restless Italian, wriggling as if troubled by olive pits in his pants, and Bill Leadbitter's Braun, a confused but confident admirer of both Hitler and Freud.

Though he allows the action to move too hastily to its climax, David O'Shea's direction draws the main story steadily into prominence above the side issues of the war.

Virtuosity and charm

DANCE

Royal Ballet
Covent Garden

The Royal Ballet seems to have got to grips with David Bintley's *Galanteries* which formed the central part of Saturday's triple bill at Covent Garden. When first shown last season it appeared somewhat unwieldy in structure, and a trifle long.

But the dancers now sail

lightly through the intricacies of the choreography, and the women, in particular, make the most of the many opportunities to display virtuosity and charm. Lesley Collier wins the major honours for her joyous *pas de trois* with Antony Dowson and Mark Silver, and her fleet-footed solo, but she is strongly challenged by Fiona Chadwick in her witty variation, and neither Bryony Braid nor Karen Paisley can be over-looked.

The programme opened with Ashton's *The Dream* in a rather undistinguished performance from a very distinguished cast. There seems an irresistible temptation to add extra business to this ballet, which is so well-made that it requires only superb dancing, and ideally, less fussy designs.

No complaint though, about Jerome Robbins's *The Concert*: one of the few ballets that actually deserves, and gets, genuine belly laughs from the audience. Among an excellent cast, Jennifer Penney, wearing another daft, but flattering, hair-style, was divinely silly as the girl with the hat, and Michael Coleman wallowed in seedy lechery as the hen-pecked husband.

On Friday evening Deborah Bull danced the lead in Kenneth MacMillan's *Rite of Spring*: seeming completely at ease with the physical demands of the role, she emphasised more clearly than anyone I have ever seen, the sacred nature of the rite. A distinguished debut from a promising dancer.

CHRISTIE'S

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The Dame and her Harry Humphries... broods on over quarter of a century with Edna Everage

Satanic benediction

A sighting of Dame Edna Everage in multi can be an unnerving experience. There is her alter ego at the Holiday Inn in Hampstead, swathed in herringbone tweed and wearing an urbanized Crocodile Dundee hat. A closer look reveals that livid mole on the right of the face, the mildly shocked eyes, benign and predatory at the same time, and the wandering mouth shaping up for a put-down.

Mercifully, Barry Humphries has not arrived in *Dame*, as he has been known to do on occasions, so there is no need to ponder to his inquisitorial invention. Instead he is talking, soberly and even somberly, about his very early days as a stand-up comic, his return to the roots of his career for his new one-man show, *Back With A Vengeance*, opening at the Strand Theatre tonight, and the way in which he and Dame Edna have moved in and out of each other's lives for more than a quarter of a century.

The picture that emerges is one of a fairly desperate young man in late 1950s Australia, afflicted with high intelligence and invoking the help of grotesque caricature to thwart the establishment's prerogative on his future. "I came from the Melbourne suburb of Camberwell," he says. "That's nothing at all like the Camberwell over here. It's more like St John's Wood and Wembley with bungalows, plus here and there some two-storey houses built in the late Thirties as a mark of post-depression affluence."

The Melbourne cultural life of the day was bleak, comprising the safe imports of an advanced nation known as

Edna Everage's
new show opens
tonight in London.
Alan Franks
spoke to the man
behind the dame

Overseas - Whitehall forces, *Sailor Beware*, *Oklahoma*, *Rattigan*, Tommy Trinder and Peggy Mount. While working at the Union Theatre, with Australia's very first professional repertory company, Humphries took part in a Christmas show, and it was there that Edna Everage, then just plain Mrs. was expanded from a company in-joke to a creature fit for public consumption.

"I think it's fair to say that until that time people hadn't been used to the idea of going to the theatre to look at themselves, to see a portrayal of their own society. Dame Edna was instantly recognizable. The audience all knew her, but at the same time she was twisting the truth just enough to be threatening. More importantly, she represented everything that was inhibiting in that society, but clearly she was also an extremely powerful force."

Even before she became internationally acclaimed, young Mrs Everage was making it her business to be well versed in the minutiae of other people's lives.

As a Dame the character may have acquired some outward serenity, and she may hobnob with the highest, but

her instincts remain as dangerous as they were when she was an unsung housewife in Moolooe Ponds. Therein, Humphries agrees, lies much of the dramatic tension, not only for the audience, but for himself as well. "I think they quite like to feel they are taking part in a kind of sadomasochistic experience, if that's not putting it too strongly. In this show I've gone back to basics, in the sense that I don't know what I am going to do next, and that's how I like it. There is such a thing as being constructively unprepared."

There is a dark, almost lugubrious quality in Humphries' own manner; his comic vision may owe something to the knockabout school, but it is also the result of studying the immense collective significance of the seeming trivia that litters people's lives. He has also been the victim of a staggering (literally) alcohol problem, over which he can today claim 17 years of abstinence.

Humphries considers that Edna's character has broadened and deepened with his own experience, to the extent that she is now able to talk on more or less any subject. "She started from the suburbs, and now she's a diva, and that is her progress," he says.

"The audiences realize there's a how can I put it, a sort of perversion of love coming across from her. She doesn't exactly love them, but she forgives them. I would describe it as satanic benediction. She sends them out with her equivocal blessing. My relationship with her is like my relationship with Australia. I visit from time to time, but I do not live there."

MR ROGER HESKETH

Mr Roger Hesketh, OBE, TD, landed gentleman, Conservative MP and amateur architect, died on November 14. He was 85.

Roger Fleetwood Hesketh was born at Southport on July 28, 1902, and educated at Eton and at Christ Church, Oxford. He was called to the Bar at Inner Temple in 1929.

When Supreme Headquarters was formed in 1943, he joined the staff of General Eisenhower where he was in charge of the staff of General Eisenhower where he was in charge of the staff of General Eisenhower.

His interpretation here and elsewhere was a good deal less quirky in matters of tempo and phrasing than I recalled from his previous visit, but he still has particular views on keyboard sonorities which he achieves by an unusual combination of clipped phrasing and use of the sustaining pedal. As he also articulated a

At the age of 20 he joined the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry of which he later became an honorary colonel. When Supreme Headquarters was formed in 1943, he joined the staff of General Eisenhower where he was in charge of the staff of General Eisenhower.

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Hesketh was essentially a modest and unassuming man. It is no doubt for this reason that though loved by his countrymen, he was not a household name. His musical character while expanding the sentiment in this "romantic sonata", as the composer once described it. The pianist did not labour the "carnival" feel of the title and he compensated for any unduly plaintive slow movement by a beautifully light-fingered "scherzino" and a big-hearted finale.

He wrought something of a transformation on Debussy's *Pour le Piano* through the wealth of harmonic character he bestowed on the Prelude and gleaming rhythmic dexterity of the final Toccata.

After that a group of four Rachmaninovs. Excludes were given colourful pianistic expression and helped to whet the appetite for the larger-scale Rachmaninov. He is due to record on this visit.

Noël Godwin

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FASHION 1 by Liz Smith

Who's a Dipsy Doodle dandy?

Stirrups are back, the silhouette is sleek and smart skiers, from Colorado to Courchevel, are making the colours bright or black. The key is to customize

Wind, snow, cold are hardly a hazard to today's skier. Space-age fabrics, many of them developed by NASA, are geared to high-altitude survival. New high-tech featherweight waddings with delightfully robotic names such as X403, Libond or Hollofil provide insulation for sub-zero temperatures and streamline the silhouettes seen schussing down the slopes.

But even the most velvet-smooth run in the best-groomed ski resort holds its terrors for anyone who aims to cut a dash on the piste. Can cowboy fringes and Davy Crockett fur tails be carried off with quite as much aplomb in Ostad as on the easy Dipsy Doodle run in Aspen? Are cigarette-slim stirrup ski pants OK worn with a silky anorak? Will pearlized seersucker salopettes with a Walkman clamped to your bobble hat make you sparkle in Courchevel this winter? The answer this season is yes to the first two, and no to the last.

A freestyle approach to a basically streamlined ski outfit is the key to success, it seems. The celebrated designer and hotelier Anouska Hempel, wife of financier Sir Mark Weinberg, is conspicuously elegant on and off the slopes. Dressed always in rich, dark colours, often with a hat low over her eyes, she has worked out her own customized ski uniform.

"Invariably it's a tiny, black, very neat all-in-one ski suit to which I have added a beaver collar. Brown and black look marvellous worn together. The more streamlined and simple the outfit, the better," she says. A Donna Karan body or silk all-in-ones by the Swiss firm of Hamro go first, layered with plain tights. A belt in beaver or heavy black leather, a beaver

hat tied under the chin or camouflaged attached to the ends of her goggles ("never on those awful headbands") complete her outfit.

Diana Donovan, her ski-pass snap taken by her fashion photographer husband Terence Donovan, zooms downhill at Val d'Isère or Zürs with elegance matched to speed. She champions the glamour of colour against snow and the practicality of the one-piece ("It gives you a waist, and that's sexy"). Insulation begins with longjohns and inner gloves ordered by post from Orvis, fishing gear specialists.

Gina Sopwith - formerly Gina Hathorn, the international skier - who taught the Prince of Wales to ski, is an expert on the slaloms of skiwear, too. "The British are looking more zippy on the slopes - at last," she says. "Those old-fashioned stirrup ski pants are back in vogue, but this time worn smothered in pads so that you look like a demon 'boy racer'."

Lillywhites, specialists in ski clothes since the 1920s, have the widest range in London. They stock the glossiest labels, like the American-designed Head range, whose prices can run as high as £1,000 for a ski suit (Tyrolia is Head's more moderately priced range); the new fluorescent outfits from Nevea, log-graded for warmth, the less expensive but equally stylish Lubla, where a jacket costs £110 and the matching ski pants £46.99.

C & A's exclusive line EVF, produced by Nevea, is priced from £59.99 for a ski jacket to £79.99 for an all-in-one suit. Next are making fresh tracks into the ski market with a range of rugged parkas to wear over tough black ski pants.



Left: His all-in-one ski suit with fluorescent trim, £199, Nevea at Snow & Rock, 150 Holborn, EC1; 188 Kensington High Street, W8; 47 Stephenson Street, Birmingham. Zippered white cotton polo-neck top, £18.99; snow goggles, £26.50, Juibo; both Pindisports, 14-18 Holborn, EC1. Thinsulate gloves, £12.99, C & A selected branches

Centre: Her printed blue, lime and mauve ski jacket, £59.99; blue stretch corduroy ski pants, £35; fluorescent ski gloves, £12.99; all C & A selected branches. Zippered lime green polo-neck top, £19.99, Snow & Rock. Wrap-around sunglasses, £59, Cutler & Gross, 16 Knightsbridge, Green, SW1. Ski boots, Raichle RX 580, £129.90, Pindisports

Right: His ski jacket with fluorescent trim, £145, Nevea at Snow & Rock. Gray fleecy Synchronia ski pants, £55.95, Patagonia; knitted headband (worn over collar), £12; scarlet boots, Nordica 720, £89.95; all Pindisports, 14-18 Holborn, EC1

Photograph by Tony McGee
Make-up: Leanne Hirsch. Hair: John Birchall

FASHION continued on p21

BECKETT - On November 15th, peacefully in hospital, Colonel John Goodwyn Alden O.B.E., T.D., D.L., of Malabar, Ely, Alderman of East Cambridgeshire District Council. Burial on November 17th at Ely Cathedral. Flowers if desired to Martin & Wyman of Ely.

BEVAN - Peacefully, on November 15th 1987, in her 95th year, Rachel Bevan (née Knechtel-Knechtel), wife of the late Hugh R. M.

KING - On November 15th, 1987, peacefully in hospital, Colonel John Goodwyn Alden O.B.E., T.D., D.L., of Malabar, Ely, Alderman of East Cambridgeshire District Council. Burial on November 17th at Ely Cathedral. Flowers if desired to Martin & Wyman of Ely.

MELLY - On November 13th, 1987, Anne, of London and Verona, New Jersey, suddenly but peacefully, beloved wife of Joseph T. and mother of Elizabeth, Michael, Paul and James. Requiem Mass at the Holy Trinity Church, 211 Old Kent Road, London SE16, on Friday November 20th at 4.30pm, followed by private cremation. No flowers by request but donations, if desired, to St. Michael's Home, Michael Tetley products and services offered by COMPAREX BASF and Siemens joint operation, is winning.

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FASHION 2

Success through one pair of eyes

Terence Conran has a single-minded strategy for selling clothes — and Jan Kern is the single mind that he's chosen

Sir Terence Conran is looking for the perfect pair of plain black socks. He wants to find them stacked neatly in satisfyingly generous piles, and in navy blue, dark grey and white as well, in all his BHS shops. Alongside them will be the equally basic but perfect plain white T-shirt.

Operation Clean-Up, Conran's initial strategy to give a quick new gloss to the chains of shops he acquired at the height of the High Street takeovers, is now into its next stage. A more long-term drive in the Store Wars is Conran's campaign for quality.

Can he ever do for clothes what he did for cast-iron casseroles and cafeterias in Habitat? If so, it will be all down to Jan Kern, the woman he recently appointed to be his "one pair of eyes" on matters of fashion. Conran believes that a single-minded vision is the key to success in retailing. In the Richards chain, BHS and Mothercare, the coffee cups, blinds, prams and now clothes must look as if they have been picked by the one stylish person.

The concept worked with Next, launched by Conran while he was chairman of Hepworths. He installed as its head George Davies and got him up and running. Davies, as we all now know, raced off rather spectacularly with the Next idea and has developed the chain beyond even Conran's dreams.

Conran and his Design Group were well into a £300 million modernization programme for the 127 BHS shops when he merged his Habitat Mothercare group with BHS to make Storehouse early last year. His first move was to appoint Jan Kern to look at fashion buying and design inside BHS.



Jan Kern in check wool jacket, £45; wool skirt, £24.99; all BHS

She was so successful in briefing designers, chivvying buyers to be more adventurous and tying up production contracts that he has since made her managing director of Conran Design's fashion division with responsibility for all three chains.

In addition to the spacious BHS fashion studio in which she still keeps her office, Kern now moves around the rest of the warren of studios installed by Conran in what were the bedding factories in his Heals

building to share with her team of 35 her mission to make Storehouse fashion an essential part of the life of every man, woman and child.

Conran and Kern look as though they plan to meet a challenge other stores avoid: to provide the simple basics of a wardrobe to the best possible standards and at a reasonable price. A current advertising campaign photographed by Snowdon presents Storehouse customers with their Favourite Things and endorses this

"Tastes are shaped by what people are offered. Good taste can be acquired"

Terence Conran

commitment to quality. Jan Kern provides the points of reference for her designers for seasons ahead, and had the satisfaction recently of noting that trends she had set at BHS for spring '88 as far back as March this year have been endorsed by the recent ready-to-wear collections in Paris. The navy and ecru of BHS's New England classics for 1988, the earthy shades and washed-out colours and woven checks of her provençal theme are all reflected.

Kern's background in fashion began as a trainee buyer at Selfridges. "I was the youngest buyer ever," she says. A job marketing Braemar classics was followed by her own consultancy to link Hong Kong manufacturers with US stores. She then went on to head the fashion division of her husband's middle market fashion house Reidan, a background that merges neatly in her present role with Conran.

Richards, whose clothes are aimed at the 25-to-45 age group, has already been given a noticeably more stylish image since Conran acquired the chain in 1983. "Richards is motoring well. It's just a matter of fine tuning," Kern says. At Mothercare and BHS they are committed to the new campaign for quality. "We believe in natural fibres, for example. For winter 1988 our investment in pure wool is £5 million."

In the end her success depends on the customers' desire for such sophistication and good design. "People's tastes are shaped by what they are offered," Conran says. "It's an organic process of change. Good taste can be acquired."

Liz Smith

PEOPLE

Costa's 'bravo'

Dallas-based designer Victor Costa, creator of "good-time clothes" for America's moneyed Nouvelle Society, is in London, squaring his 20-year-old daughter Adrienne around the art galleries. He also found time to introduce Harvey Nichols' customers to the positive pleasures of his draped and swathed taffetas and sculpted velvets, which retail in the store at prices ranging from £125 to £600.

Brooke Shields, Ivanna Trump, Joan Collins and her Dynasty daughter Emma Samms are devoted to the cunning flattery of Costa's cut, a talent he picked up alongside Yves Saint Laurent at fashion school in Paris. His boned, strapless sheaths, trimmed in

fox or gleaming with spangly buttons, are not for the shy.

Amanda Verdan, the store's own fashion director and named as one of London's most stylish women in the first issue of W, new arbiter of taste, has herself been providing the best informal one-woman parade of Costa style, dressed in his glamorous frocks.

Top knots

The Duke of Windsor gave his name to his rather idiosyncratic way of fixing his tie with an extra-fat double knot. The newest Windsor knot is altogether more straightforward. It is how Hermes describe the simplest way of wearing one of their famous silk squares — tied firmly under the chin. Harrods obviously thinks its Sloane clientele need further education in knotting a scarf. To celebrate the opening of a new access-

ories corner it has invited Hermes to run through the scarf-wearing repertoire and tomorrow an Hermes Workshop takes place in the scarf department.

Winning ways

In every industry it is the season for handing out the bouquets, and the fashion business is no exception. Manolo Blahnik, London's most stylish shoe designer, has an even more appreciative following on the other side of the Atlantic than here. It has been announced that in January he will pick up the Council of Fashion Designers of America award for shoe design. Giorgio Armani wins CFDA's Life-

time Achievement Award for menswear, and Tina Brown's Vanity Fair is named Magazine of the Year.

The British Fur Trade Association has only just got around to organizing its own awards system.

The first, sponsored by the Hudson's Bay Company and presented on Sunday evening at a gala fashion show in London, went to a full-length sweep of a coat with a fashionably wide shawl collar made in natural dark ranch mink by the Mayfair-based manufacturers M & L Garter. It even beat a flamboyant black mink jacket by London's Japanese star, Yuki, worked in circles with batwing sleeves and outlined in black fox.

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Business sponsors of TV productions set to get approval

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Commercial sponsorship of programmes made by independent producers for BBC and ITV is expected to receive government approval, it was disclosed yesterday.

The radical change in programme funding was signalled by Mr Timothy Renton, Minister of State at the Home Office with responsibility for broadcasting, and could herald wide-ranging sponsorship for all television.

The planned change in funding is unlikely to require new legislation and could be enforced by a simple Commons order.

Mr Renton, speaking at a broadcasting industry lunch on television sponsorship in London, said Britain had been "unnecessarily coy" in the past in its approach to sponsorship.

He added: "It seems clear to us what was once regarded as the unacceptable face of commercial broadcasting has now come to be increasingly accepted by the broadcasters as a legitimate source of funding."

Mr Michael Checkland, director general of the BBC, has made clear his wish for the present restrictions on programme sponsorship to be relaxed. The corporation has asked the Government specifically to permit sponsorship from commercial companies for the funding of independent productions shown on BBC, which are expected to make up 25 per cent of television viewing in the forthcoming years.

Mr Renton said: "We are looking at the implications of these proposals and we hope to reach a decision before long."

"Among the issues we need to consider are the extent to which sponsorship in this country would attract new money as opposed to diverting funds currently devoted to other forms of sponsorship or advertising."

"We must also look at the wider implications for the financing of the BBC."

"In principle, however, we are sympathetic to the case that has been put and we are anxious to explore fully the possibility of making the change sought by the corporation."

Mr Renton confirmed later that the same sponsorship arrangement would, if agreed by the Government, apply to independent television companies.

panies for independent-made programmes.

The Broadcasting Authority and the BBC are reviewing their approach to sponsorship.

"The Government will await with interest the outcome of these reviews and will of course consider carefully whatever proposals may be put by the broadcasting authorities for a change in the existing framework of legislation on sponsorship," Mr Renton added.

Mr Renton emphasized that any changes would respect the key principles of "transparency for the viewer and retention of editorial control for the broadcaster."

The minister's announcement was welcomed by Mr Paul Styles, the director of the Independent Programme Producers' Association, which is holding detailed negotiations with the BBC and ITV companies aimed at gaining 25 per cent access to present channels.

He said: "Mr Renton has opened up new ground. He has clearly given the green light to the BBC to discuss with the independents the possibility of sponsorship programming."

Decline of dollar worries the EEC

Continued from page 1

ization of taxes within the EEC, including the prospect of an end to the zero-rating in Britain of basic products such as food, children's clothing, and newspapers and books. He noted that although the Commission had made it clear that member states could apply for exemptions for a transitional period, if they felt that ending VAT zero-rating would cause undue hardship, no government had yet sent its formal response to Brussels.

Mr Lawson reminded Lord Cockfield that during the last British general election both he and Mrs Thatcher had pledged that zero-rating would not be ended in Britain on food, fuel and children's clothing and Britain remained unable to accept any proposal which conflicted with those pledges.

A spokesman for Lord Cockfield said 1992 remained the target date for the abolition of frontiers, but said in practice this was more likely to mean December 31, 1992 than January 1, 1992. There would have to be no "slippage" beyond the end of 1992, however, the spokesman said.

The Ministers said the events of recent weeks had emphasised the advantages of the Single European Act in setting up a "large integrated European market of goods, services and capital". Progressive realization of this objective would create new opportunities for growth in Europe.

The Ministers said it was highly important that the financial and monetary co-operation agreed in the Louvre Accord last February should be implemented by all parties "in full and without delay".

The Accord was designed to stabilize currencies and prevent the slide of the Dollar. The Ministers said that the European Monetary System (EMS) played an important role in stabilizing currencies, and the EMS had been strengthened by recent Franco-German agreements.

Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the German Finance Minister, said the time was not yet ripe for convening G7, or the Group of Seven, and there was a need first to work towards greater consensus.

Mr Lawson said he would like to see a meeting of the Group of Seven, but the ingredients had to be right and this could take more than a week. The signs were good on the US budget deficit, however, and the Group of Seven should be convened "as soon as possible". Asked what the preconditions for a Group of Seven meeting were, Mr Lawson said that countries such as West Germany and Japan had to take the necessary measures to maintain world economic growth, and there had to be a re-establishment of the Louvre accord on currency stability. Meanwhile, EEC Agriculture Ministers yesterday began consideration of automatic limits or "stabilizers" on farm output in an attempt to curb spending under the Common Agricultural Policy.

Spectrum, page 12

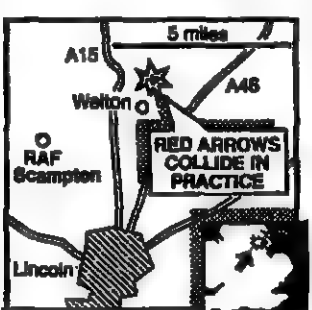
Two jets collide in mid-air

Continued from page 1

son Simon, aged five, was at school when the jet struck her house, wrecking it.

An eye-witness, Mr Gary Percival, said: "There was suddenly this terrific bang. When one plane hit the back of a house in the road, there was another explosion and a ball of flames leapt up."

Mr Charles Gillon said the



Red Arrow planes "didn't appear to be doing anything unusual. About five or six of them in diamond formation came over from Scampton and suddenly the tail of one clipped the wing of another."

"Both planes came spiralling down. They can only have missed us by inches."

Yesterday the RAF said there would be a board of inquiry but there was no question at this stage of grounding the Red Arrows.



Wales salutes Bevan

It was entirely appropriate that Mr Michael Foot, orator, Labour luminary and Welsh politician should have been invited to unveil a statue yesterday of late Anuraia Bevan, orator, Labour luminary and Welsh politician. Mr Foot succeeded Mr Bevan as MP for Ebbw Vale (now Blaenau Gwent) in 1960 and, many think, also took on his role as the Labour party's leading speaker. In 1962 and 1973 he published two volumes of Mr Bevan's biography.

The statue was commissioned by South Glamorgan council - with financial help from other Welsh authorities - from a local sculptor, Mr Robert Thomas, and stands at the western end of Cardiff's Queen Street. The council says it is in recognition of one of Wales' greatest sons whose contribution to the well-being of his people was unquestionable. The leader of the Opposition, Mr Neil Kinnock, was at the ceremony. (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Moore sent to hospital

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Mr John Moore, the Secretary of State for Social Services, was undergoing tests at a private hospital last night after being admitted with a mysterious infection at the weekend.

Mr Moore, aged 49 and renowned as a fitness enthusiast, was admitted on Sunday night to Parkside Hospital, near his home in Wimbledon, south-west London, after suddenly falling ill that afternoon.

A spokesman for the Department of Health said that on his doctor's advice, the minister was immediately admitted to hospital. "The hospital does not know what is

Briton held in kidnap case

From Harry Debelins, Madrid

Spanish police investigating the kidnapping of the six-year-old daughter of a wealthy Lebanese businessman and a Korean opera and pop star, Princess Kimera, were working against the clock last night after the gang holding her set a deadline which expires today for a \$13 million (£7.5 million) ransom to be paid.

Among those being interviewed by a special squad of detectives, which includes representatives of Interpol, is a Briton taken into custody on Sunday night at Estepona, near the child's home. A

British woman held with him was released after questioning.

The moves came after the collection of an envelope containing a photograph and a five-minute tape recording of the weeping child's voice speaking in English and French, described by a police inspector working on the case as something that would "make hair stand on end".

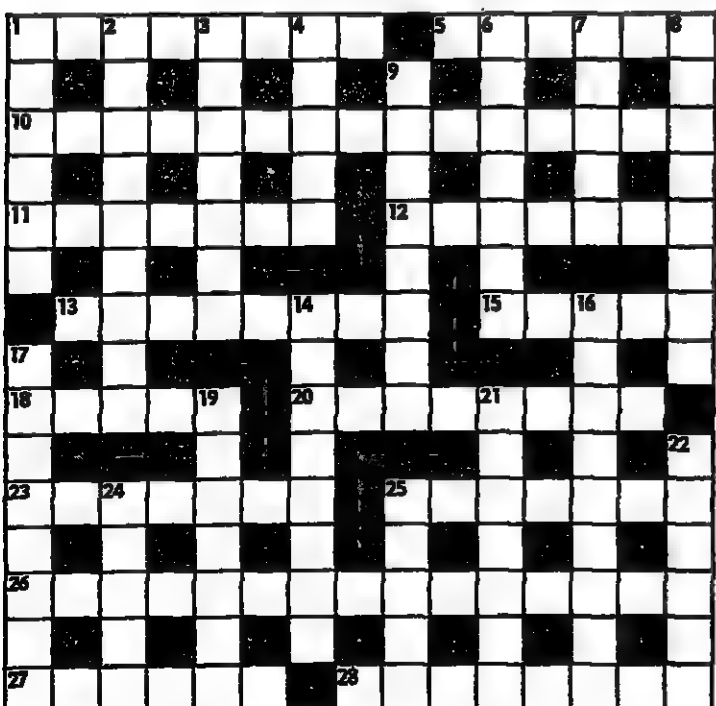
The envelope was picked up after an anonymous caller gave detailed instructions to a reporter in the Seville office of the Madrid daily newspaper ABC on Sunday night.

The caller also said that the father of Melodie Nash had "offered us \$300,000 the other day and today he offered us a million". "That's not good enough for us. We know he has it and doesn't want to pay."

Earlier the father, Mr Raymond Nakachian, was telephoned by the kidnappers at a restaurant near his home. On his return to his villa, he suggested the crime may be an act of revenge.

Police are investigating links with underworld figures living in southern Spain.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE No 17,516



- ACROSS**
- In church, religious leader has right to be more awkward (8).
 - Buttonhole for Bill Price (6).
 - Fruit, biscuit and dessert, say, with music (10,5).
 - The venom in a lizard is not altogether insignificant (7).
 - Hangs about in Estoril resort (7).
 - These figures make USA ratty (8).
 - Gorge the king with fish (5).
 - Marine ape (5).
 - Many a journalist grabs a man from ACAS (8).
 - Engineers demand salvage (7).
 - Assume superior attitude (7).
 - He's no manager, though a capital contributor (8,7).
 - Address heard night and day (6).
 - Not hurting like Marie Antoinette's poor people? (8).

- DOWN**
- Accountant has a number of dogs (6).
 - Married woman drops right under car - she acts without thinking (9).
 - Cricketer snatches run - a single - for the title (7).
 - Exceed 40, say (5).
 - Allotting part of a fisherman's work (7).
 - Conclude work in the Orient (5).
 - Not quite the earth perhaps - certain it's worth a lot (8).
 - A trick indeed when troops are so spread out (8).
 - Equipment for Sandhurst soldiers in mounted army (8).
 - Declare it, say, to be above the church (9).
 - Tells of one sapper's discomfiture (8).
 - Short version of Lonsdale's play for examination (2,5).
 - Bad pun, sir? Not if you take this (7).
 - Suit for beaters (6).
 - Applause for the poet, always upholding honour (3).
 - Fish pie, say, in the Mediterranean (5).

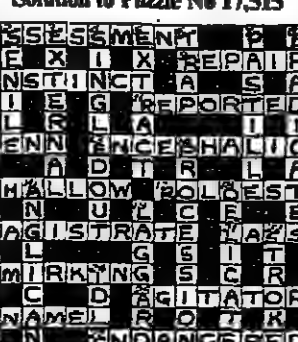
WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

- FRIBBLE**
- A tool for kneading dough
 - To play the fool
 - To spit while pronouncing phrases
- HEPTAD**
- A group of seven
 - An Islamic fast
 - A joint in carpentry
- TROPISM**
- Automatic response to a stimulus
 - A school of psychotherapy
 - Medical name for giddiness
- JORUM**
- A drinking-bowl
 - The buttress beside the edans in Real Tennis
 - A prefect at Harrow

Solutions page 22, column 8

Solution to Puzzle No 17,515



WEATHER

A ridge of high pressure will cross the British Isles ahead of an Atlantic frontal systems. Scattered showers are likely in the north, becoming dry for a while before cloud and rain spreads from the west. The south, east and south Wales should remain dry but cloudy later. Temperatures above average. Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Windy with rain at times in the north and west. Dry elsewhere. Mild.

ABROAD

MONDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fog; g, rain; h, sun; s, snow; t, thunder.					
Algiers	17	17	17	17	17
Amsterdam	12	12	12	12	12
Athens	21	21	21	21	21
Bahia	26	26	26	26	26
Barcelona	13	13	13	13	13
Berlin	10	10	10	10	10
Bombay	28	28	28	28	28
Buenos Aires	18	18	18	18	18
Calcutta	28	28	28	28	28
Cairo	28	28	28	28	28
Cape Town	19	19	19	19	19
Colon	26	26	26	26	26
Cyprus	17	17	17	17	17
Dublin	12	12	12	12	12
Edinburgh	12	12	12	12	12
Geneva	18	18	18	18	18
Hong Kong	28	28	28	28	28
India	28	28	28	28	28
Jerusalem	18	18	18	18	18
London	12	12	12	12	12
Lyons	18	18	18	18	18
Madrid	18	18	18	18	18
Manila	28	28	28	28	28
Moscow	12	12	12	12	12
New York	18	18	18	18	18
Paris	18	18	18	18	18
Rangoon	28	28	28	28	28
Reykjavik	12	12	12	12	12
Rome	18	18	18	18	18
Salt Lake City	12	12	12	12	12
San Francisco	18	18	18	18	18
Seoul	18	18	18	18	18
Shanghai	18	18	18	18	18
Singapore	28	28	28	28	28
Sydney	18	18	18	18	18
Taipei	18	18	18	18	18
Tokyo	18	18	18	18	18
Toronto	12	12	12	12	12
Winnipeg	12	12	12	12	12
Zurich	18	18	18	18	18

AROUND BRITAIN

Sum	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri
London	12	12	12	12	12
Manchester	12	12	12	12	12
Birmingham	12	12	12	12	12
Cardiff	12	12	12	12	12
Edinburgh	12	12	12	12	12
Glasgow	12	12	12	12	12
Liverpool	12	12	12	12	12
Newcastle	12	12	12	12	12
Nottingham	12	12	12	12	12
Sheffield	12	12	12	12	12
Sunderland	12	12	12	12	12
Wolverhampton	12	12	12	12	12
Wrexham	12	12	12	12	12

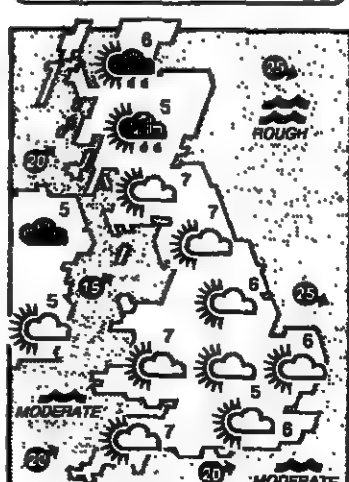
HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	PM	HT	FT
London Bridge	10.37	5.18	11.09	6.11
Aberdeen	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Aberystwyth	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Belfast	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Cardiff	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Devonport	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Dover	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Falmouth	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Glasgow	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Harwich	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Holyhead	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
London	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Lyons	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Manila	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Moscow	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
New York	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Paris	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Rangoon	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Reykjavik	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Rome	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Salt Lake City	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
San Francisco	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Seoul	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Shanghai	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Singapore	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Sydney	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Taipei	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Tokyo	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Toronto	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Winnipeg	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11
Zurich	10.40	5.18	11.09	6.11

THE POUND

Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
Australia	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
Belgium	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
Canada	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
Denmark	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
France	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
Germany	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
Greece	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
Italy	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
Japan	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
Netherlands	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
Portugal	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
Spain	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
Sweden	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
Switzerland	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
USA	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
Yugoslavia	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40

AM



LONDON

Sunday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 13C (55F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 9C (48F). Humidity: 6 pm, 94 per cent. Rain: 24% to 6 pm, 0.0mm. Sun: 24% to 6 pm, 0.0mm. Wind: 10 mph, 10 mph, 10 mph.

MANCHESTER

Sunday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 11C (52F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 8C (46F). Humidity: 6 pm, 94 per cent. Rain: 24% to 6 pm, 0.0mm. Sun: 24% to 6 pm, 0.0mm. Wind: 10 mph, 10 mph, 10 mph.

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

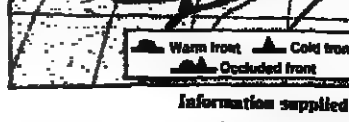
LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 4.30 pm to 6.30 am
Bristol 4.40 pm to 7.02 am
Edinburgh 4.50 pm to 7.24 am
Manchester 4.40 pm to 7.09 am
Penzance 5.00 pm to 7.09 am

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Sunday: Highest day temp: Macclesfield, 13C (55F); lowest day temp: Ayr, 9C (48F). Highest night temp: Ayr, 9C (48F); lowest night temp: Ayr, 9C (48F).

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by London Weather Centre

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Share Drug up to £2.2m

By John Bell, City Editor

Boosted by a rapid increase in its chain of outlets, Share Drug Stores raised profits 23 per cent last year to £2.205 million. Forty stores were added during the 12 months to bring the total number of outlets to 135, increasing net selling area from 230,000 sq ft to 315,000 sq ft.

Shareholders are to receive a total dividend for the year of 3p per share after a final payment of 1.9p. This compares with a total of 2.4p for the whole of the previous financial year.

Mr Alan Prince, the chairman, said he planned to open about 30 stores in the current year. Contracts had been exchanged on 11 of them and six were already open and trading. The group has the capacity for further additions. In July, an extension to the main warehouse was completed, raising its area by almost half to 107,000 sq ft. This enables Share Drug to serve 200 stores in the future.

The group's long-range planning has identified 260 additional sites within its current Southampton-based trading area. Substantially higher sales over the next few years would increase buying power and lead to further economies of scale, said Mr Prince.

"The drug store sector is still very buoyant and will make further significant gains in market share. I intend that Share Drug Stores will remain one of the major chains in this country," he added.

The past year was especially pleasing as the higher profits had been achieved even though 85 of the 135 stores had been open for less than two years, he said.

But this was a good sign for future profits as stores tended to show higher sales after their first 12 months of trading. Of the 40 stores opened in the last financial year, 16 were acquired from the Billington group last June. They did not contribute to the year just ended, but are expected to generate profits in the 1987-8 financial year.

Dollar's recovery and hopes on US deficit lift shares

By Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

Market-makers were feeling the squeeze yesterday as share prices opened the second leg of the account on a firm note helped by the continued recovery in the dollar and hopes of agreement soon in the US deficit talks.

The focus of attention once again fell on the leaders where double-figure gains were soon established in thin conditions. But prices were unable to maintain their early pace and boiled over towards the close despite a firm start to trading on Wall Street.

Turnover remained low with less than 700 million shares traded. BP new shares

● Morgan Stanley was impressed with recent interim figures from London International Group, showing pretax profits up from £12.2 million to £15 million but it gives a warning that it remains vulnerable to a recession. The shares are only a "buy" if the recession fails to materialize.

accounted for most of this with about 220 million shares changing hands as the price firmed 1p to 79.5p. The ordinary rose by 5p to 252p.

The FT-SE 100 index breached the 1,700 level and by 4 pm was 40.4 points up at 1,718.7, having been 55.8 higher earlier in the session. The narrower, FT index of 30 shares also closed below its best levels of the day, but was still 36.4 up at 1,353.5 during the afternoon.

Government securities again lost ground with prices losing more than 1/4% at the longer end.

The big dollar-earners showed signs of recovery with ICI up 20p to £10.65, BAT Industries, 5p higher at 458p, after 463p, Jaguar, 9p up at 328p, and British Aerospace, 5p better at 330p, after 336p.

Prudential-Bache, the New York securities house, has become the latest to produce a portfolio of stocks which is

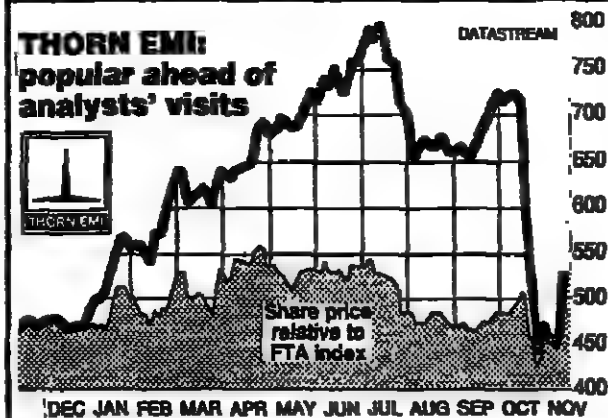
capable of handling the current volatile conditions. Entitled *Safe Stocks for a Volatile Market*, the list contains about a dozen companies including Royal Insurance, 3p lower at 365p, Commercial Union, 5p dearer at 318p, GEC, 3p higher at 174p, Hanson Trust, 5p better at 134p, Abbey Life, 8p higher at 227p and TSB, 8p dearer at 115p.

Thorn EMI jumped by 31p to 525p as investors showed interest ahead of two days' of presentations by the company to analysts which are being held at its research laboratories in Hayes, Middlesex, as well as the HMV record store in London's Oxford Street.

Dealers are looking for some good news from the company's charts to analysts which will also coincide with a series of presentations by Mr Colin Southgate, Thorn's managing director and chief executive, concentrating on the rental and retail divisions, technology within the group and the Kenwood and lighting businesses.

The market now takes the view that Thorn EMI is an

STOCK MARKET



attractive growth stock which has been oversold during the collapse after earlier touching a 1987 peak of 830p. The group is seen as being more US-orientated than it really is - US exposure is between 20 and 25 per cent of profits - and Rent-A-Center makes Thorn the world's biggest buyer of television and video sets, with an annual off-take of nearly 2 million units and the power to negotiate cheaper prices from suppliers.

Hopes are high that the interim results, scheduled for December 10, will give the company a boost and that the shares will then enjoy a re-

rating. Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker, rates them as a "buy" and is forecasting pretax profits of £58.5 million, 4 per cent up on last year's figure of £41.5 million.

BICC, the electric cables and construction group, gained 7p to 298p as County NatWest, the broker, advised clients to buy.

Analysts again believe that BICC has been oversold as fears about the company's exposure to the Australian currency have been overdone. Following good interim results, BICC is reckoned to be producing a strong second-half performance with County NatWest forecasting £135 million pretax for the full year.

Cadbury Schweppes, the confectionery and soft drinks group, advanced 7p to 227p as dealers braced themselves for another dawn raid on the shares this week.

There was talk yesterday that General Cinema, the diversified, US theatre chain which made a market sweep last week, increasing its 10 per cent holding in Cadbury to 18.2 per cent by acquiring 57.8 million shares at 220p each, is about to add a further 6 per cent to its holding.

After last week's spending spree, dealers are expecting General Cinema to move quickly and top up its stake to nearer 25 per cent. There is already talk that a full bid of 300p a share - valuing the company at £1.74 billion - may eventually be on the way.

Powerscreen, the supplier of mobile screening equipment, run by Mr Patrick Dougan, the dynamic Irishman and formed by British Benzol's £25 million reverse takeover of Powerscreen, an Irish manufacturer of mineral processors, advanced by 8p to 123p.

Most of British Benzol's original activities have been sold or are up for sale and Mr Dougan claims that prospects for the group are excellent. Recently, he hinted that turnover could soar to £1 billion in four years' time against the current figure of £50 million. He also promised shareholders that the company's progressive dividend policy

● Shares of Glaxo, which have tumbled from £17.50 to under £10 following disappointing figures and the stock market collapse, showed signs of recovery with a rise of 42p to £11.12. Later today, a group of analysts will be flying out to Glaxo's operations in North Carolina.

will be continued and that the dependence on the old, fuel-related Benzol business will be reduced.

Kleinwort Grieson Securities, the broker, rates the shares as a strong "buy." Analysts are expecting that this year's profit target of £10 million will be exceeded as the group's acquisition programme begins to bear fruit.

Midland Bank, the smallest of the big four clearers, rose by 17p to 405p, still excited by last week's news that the HongKong and Shanghai Banking Corporation is to take a 14.9 per cent stake in the group.

Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker, believes that the deal will give Midland a "fortress" balance sheet with the strongest capital ratios in the British banks sector and is advising clients to switch from Lloyds into Midland. Lloyds, however, rose by 8p to 258p.

The stores sector gave a strong performance, helped by October's retail sales figures showing the volume of goods sold up 0.8 per cent on the month and no sign of slowing down in the run-up to Christmas.

Burton jumped by 12p to 231p ahead of Thursday's preliminary figures. County NatWest, the broker, is going for pretax profits of £181 million compared with £148.2 million last year. Analysts expect a good advance at Debenhams which will benefit from the Oxford Street refurbishment where sales are running 40 per cent ahead of last year. Earnings growth is expected to be 17 per cent, followed by 15 per cent in 1987/88. Prudential-Bache also rates the shares as a "buy."

Sears, the Selfridges, Saxe stores and William Hill betting group, rallied by a fraction to 129p as more than 2.5 million shares changed hands.

Storehouse, the British Home Stores, Habitat Mothercare, Richards and Heal's retailing group, chaired by Sir Terence Conran, gained 9p to 272p.

Last week, only a meagre 0.2 per cent of Storehouse shareholders had accepted the audacious, all-paper offer from Benzol.

Mr Peter Earl, the man behind the Benzol bid, yesterday played down Press reports that Benzol had amassed acceptances of 30 per cent or more. He gave a warning that it would be fruitless to speculate on any intentions which the board of Benzol may have.

TEMPUS

Rich pickings for Unilever

Unilever has been spreading the Flora margarine at home and selling its ice-creams in Southern Europe at a fair lick in the three months ended September. This, together with sound volume growth in other parts of the empire, has put a shine on latest results.

Especially encouraging was the record operating margins - 9 per cent in the three months ended September compared with 7.35 per cent in the June quarter - which all helped the past quarter's pretax profits rise from £319 million to £400 million. Unilever now sports a nine-month tally of £1.12 billion, against £865 million.

It does, however, beg the question as to how much more can be squeezed out of margins, although the assessment that Unilever is set fair for pretax profits around the £1.38 billion mark come year-end still stands.

The nine months results have benefited to the tune of £50 million because of the earlier change in depreciation policy, and there is a calendar quirk about a shorter working final quarter to remember. But this does not detract from what has been a good underlying performance in a number of areas, notably North America.

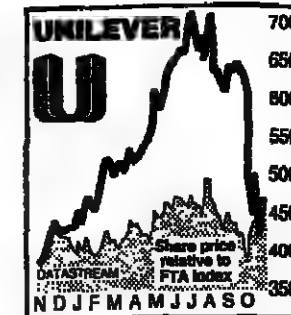
With significant contributions from Chesebrough-Pond's - which probably chipped in £630 million on the turnover front and around £103 million at the operating level in the nine months - and helped by a sizeable contribution from Lipton, results from across the Atlantic are assuming a greater importance. At £201 million against £64 million for the nine months North America now accounts for 16.8 per cent of group operating profits, and is set to grow.

The full impact of Unilever's recent acquisition programme and on-going housekeeping has yet to be felt.

In the financial year to date, Unilever has bought 18 companies across the world for a total outlay of £170 million, and has sold off 25 companies from which it reaped £1.6 billion.

By balance sheet date, gearing levels should be much improved, and given its muscle it can not be that long before Unilever is on the acquisition trail again.

The shares were 25p higher at 488p on results, where they traded at 11.8 times earnings. They remain a sound, long-term hold.



Wardle Stores

Having more than £10 million lopped off his personal wealth in the last month has done little to subdue Brian Taylor, managing director of Wardle Stores.

He rightly revels in the strong underlying growth achieved last year in the group's core technical products division - up 75 per cent - and points to the as yet not fully realized potential of the safety and survival businesses and the recently acquired Weston Hyde Coated Fabrics.

The Taylor philosophy is to put margin before volume, so rising raw material costs, particularly in crucial PVC resin, have been passed on to customers. This is not a problem if demand holds up but if recession loomed, Wardle may have to sacrifice sales.

Technical excellence and product development is improving returns in the safety and survival division. Wardle is concentrating on products at the top end of the range of inflatable, parachutes and other escape systems.

Weston Hyde made a better-than-expected contribution but is far from earning a satisfactory return. This year, it could experience 10 percentage point gross margin increase.

Wardle has net cash of £24 million which will grow during the year. Now that cash appears to be the king, the list of companies which Wardle may wish to acquire and, more importantly, can afford is expanding.

However, Wardle remains insistent it does not need to make acquisitions.

This may be the case, but with a more mundane earnings growth - 15 per cent higher at 40.3p - Mr Taylor and his team may become bored with such a pedestrian performance and look around for acquisitions to add spice to their lives.

Meanwhile, the management is worth backing.

Unigate pays price

Too much store should not be set by Unigate's poor interim profits performance. The group is in the midst of an extensive restructuring programme which is not being achieved without some cost to the bottom line.

In particular, the sale of its engineering businesses for £32 million robbed the interim profit of the £1.5 million they earned in the previous year. This was compounded by the lack of any compensating drop in the interest charge, as the proceeds of the sale were not credited until the end of the first half.

Indeed, interest costs more than doubled in the period as Unigate spent £50 million on expansion and £40 million on new acquisitions.

This expenditure has meant that the debt-equity ratio has been moving up steadily. The target range within which the group feels comfortable is between 30 per cent and 50 per cent, and at

the half-year stage it was marginally above that.

For the year as a whole, Unigate could have a total of £130 million of capital expenditure, depending on the level of acquisitions, but expects the debt-equity ratio to come within the target range.

Only 14 per cent of profits came from the US, reducing profits by £400,000 in the half year. The US restaurant chains continue to dominate their local markets.

The earnings outlook this year is decidedly dull. Pretax profits are unlikely to exceed £100 million compared with £105 million last year. Looking further ahead, however, there are prospects for real organic growth as the investment programme begins to bear fruit. In particular the new poultry venture on Humberside should be producing its first output in August 1988. The prospective multiple of just over 10 is undemanding.

The Flying W Flies Higher...

Wincanton Group continues to grow from strength to strength. In the half year to 30th September, Wincanton's operating profit increased by 46% to £9.5 million and its fleet by 20% to over 16,500 vehicles. Through its many locations, Wincanton offers Vehicle Sales, Distribution Services, Contract Hire or Vehicle Auctioneering.

For further information on distribution, contract hire, rental, sales, servicing, repairs, removals and auctions, telephone Diana O'Dell on London 01-933 5071 or Betty Rogerson on Wincanton 0963 339333.

WINCANTON GROUP

Unigate

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WINCANTON GROUP

Unigate

Nationwide

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OECD cuts growth forecast of world economy to 1.75%

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

New forecasts from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development suggest the world economy will slow as a result of the stock market crash, but that a slump will be avoided.

Economists at the Paris-based organization expect the crash to reduce world growth by 0.5 percentage points, cutting the annualized growth rate over the next 18 months to 1.75 per cent from the 2.25 per cent rate previously predicted.

The forecasts were presented to senior officials from the 24 OECD member countries on the first day of a two-day Economic Policy Committee meeting.

In today's discussions, friction is likely to emerge on the appropriate policy actions for ensuring that the recession is not deeper than implied by the OECD forecast.

Both West Germany and Japan acted yesterday to counter criticisms that they were not doing enough to restore growth and confidence in the wake of the stock market crash.

The projected growth rate of 1.75 per cent next year and in the first half of 1989, at an annual rate, compared with an expected growth rate for this year of 2.25 per cent.

However, the forecasts only take into account the direct wealth effects of the stock market crash on consumer spending, mainly in the US. They do not allow for the possible impact of the crash on confidence, which could hit investment and consumer spending by more than the wealth effect suggests.

The Economic Policy Committee meeting is chaired by Mr Beryl Sprinkel, chairman of President Reagan's Council

of Economic Advisers. He provided the meeting with the latest indication of the likely outcome of the budget negotiations in Washington.

Mr Sprinkel has opposed tax increases as a means of cutting the US budget deficit.

The West German and Japanese delegations gave big presentations to the meeting, largely in an effort to convince fellow OECD members that growth in their countries was reviving.

Herr Molitor, a senior official at the Economics Ministry in Bonn, gave the West German presentation. However, his own minister, Herr Martin Bangemann, has recently urged the Bonn government to consider further expansionary action after a US budget deal.

The latest OECD forecasts, to be published next month, while relatively encouraging

on growth prospects, is understood to show very little narrowing of the US trade deficit and the Japanese and West German surpluses.

Sir Peter Middleton, the Permanent Secretary to the Treasury, represented Britain at the talks.

The OECD forecasts for growth are not significantly out of line with projections from the Treasury and the Bank of England. The Treasury forecast in its Autumn Statement that growth in the seven leading economies next year would be 2 per cent, after 2.5 per cent this year.

The Bank of England, in its Quarterly Bulletin, published last week, predicted growth in the principal six overseas economies (the Group of Seven excluding Britain) of 2.3 per cent next year and 2.2 per cent in 1989.

Royal praise for Per Cent

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Per Cent Club, comprising companies that donate at least a half per cent of pretax profits to charity, was praised by the Prince of Wales, yesterday as "the wave of the future".

Addressing the first annual meeting of the club, which he launched in December last year, the Prince said the rapid growth in its membership confirmed that the club represented "an idea whose time has arrived".

The concept was simple, straightforward and almost universally popular. "It is manifestly to the good of all who participate. For that very basic reason I believe it is heralding what will become the wave of the future."

The club has no central fund, and companies control their own contributions to a variety of causes including education, job creation schemes, local economic development, the arts and charities.

Figures released yesterday suggest that the Per Cent Club members have given about £84 million this year. Some companies give more than the half per cent of published pretax profits.

In its annual report, the club — now with more than 100 members — says they see private sector involvement in the community "as an integral part of corporate life, which can improve both business itself and the relationship between the business sector and the community."

Increased publicity attached to contributions that are profit-linked has two beneficial results, it adds. "It can stimulate other companies to follow the example of the club members, and can also help to improve the relationship between local communities and the private sector, by publicizing the scale of existing commitments."

Among members are Allied Dunbar Assurance, which gives 1.5 per cent of profits to Third World and inner city charities; Amersham International, which sponsors a lollipop lady for a local school; Deloitte, Haskins & Sells, which sponsored a children's production at the National Theatre; Laura Ashley, which provides furniture and furnishings for a mentally handicapped children's home; and Price Waterhouse, which contributed 4 per cent of profits to community schemes, including a study on West Midlands regeneration.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

Sir Adam grasping at European straws

The Monopolies Commission report may have turned out well for British Airways, but it did not do many good turns for British Caledonian.

B-Cal's long-term future was in doubt before the report. Now Sir Adam Thomson, a man of great fighting qualities, has lost even more of his bargaining strength as a result of the stock market crash and the concessions BA had to make to the commission. The fallen market has a secondary impact because of its influence on the level of available business.

In advance of talks over a new British Airways bid, Sir Adam is understandably anxious to give the impression that he has alternative business plans and does not depend on the reduced bid Lord King is expected to produce by the December 2 takeover deadline. Sir Adam wants to start talking from the original £237 million bid. Or rather from the £220 million cash alternative, since the slump in BA's share price has cut the paper offer to £155 million. He might then concede that circumstances have changed a little, what with one thing and another and the sale of B-Cal's hotels. The suggestion might be that £180-200 million would be deemed acceptable to 3i and other big shareholders.

Even that might bring no more than a tiger's smile to the faces of Lord King and his redoubtable finance director, Gordon Dunlop. They are more likely to be thinking in terms of B-Cal's latest asset value of £97 million, which is also the rough market value of the estimated extra £40 million profits from putting the two airlines together.

Sir Adam desperately needs a credible alternative in the shape of one or more European airlines taking a stake, short of control. KLM ruled itself out yesterday. The joint Scandinavian airline system (SAS) and Air France are also esconced in the departure lounge for rumours and hints.

The trouble is that such schemes were thought of before Sir Adam (or at least the B-Cal board) opted to sell to his rival, Lord King. Earlier, SAS and Alitalia were the favourites, with vague talk of a three-way link with SAS and Belgium's Sabena. Any such link would effectively have required approval of the Transport Department and the Civil Aviation Authority, in terms of monopoly investigation and satisfying the CAA that B-Cal was not foreign-controlled. Otherwise, B-Cal would have had to give up routes where it was a designated British carrier.

Some influential voices would have preferred such a solution, but only if the country of origin of the newcomer adopted the same intra-European competition agreed, for instance, between Britain and Holland. It could have been a lever to open up the airways. But such deals were not available with Italy or Denmark, which are particularly restric-

tive. France hardly seems more promising. Would BA be allowed to buy into France's second-force airline?

These problems would remain in any new deal. Yet the undoubted threat of a merged BA/B-Cal will have concentrated the minds of other Continental airlines. They may be anxious to offer more favourable deals — putting up more money for a smaller stake. But this could only be a solution for B-Cal if it were effectively integrated with its new partner's network.

As in the Westland case, the Continental alternative still looks more useful as a bargaining counter than as a genuine alternative, long-term solution for B-Cal's shareholders. Sir Adam may hope, as top whack, to persuade BA to maintain its share offer. He would appear to have little chance of a cash bid of more than about £130 million. Given the character of the man, the negotiations should be lively.

Tunnel awaits public

For Eurotunnel, the agonizing stage of financing is over now that underwriters have guaranteed that the main tranche of equity will be raised. Loans can be released and building work can go ahead in earnest.

Evidently, it was touch and go (Robert Maxwell's involvement came in an early stage: he came not as a late saviour). Fortunately, the stock market recovered somewhat just at the right moment; but, bearing in mind all the circumstances, the firm placing of more than 40 per cent of the issue with institutional investors is a triumph. For other potential investors, the anguish of deciding whether to back the project is just beginning. After the prospectus is published tomorrow, there will be a week to decide.

It is a complicated affair, with shares in British and French companies grouped in units and separately-quoted warrants to subscribe for further units at £4.60 in three years' time. Such complexities reflect the original intention of aiming at the sophisticated investor who wants capital gains in the years up to the scheduled opening in 1993, and dividends thereafter. The commitment to pay out virtually all profits in dividends is helpful.

Necessity has, however, changed the emphasis to attract a different kind of investor through the travel privileges. Calculations will be made on the potential value of (almost) free trips on the shuttle. These have real value but, except for frequent and regular travellers, are probably not sufficient reason alone for buying the shares, not least because the travel benefits are not transferable.

Investors should look at the equity in terms of a reasonable risk for a potentially high reward, initially in terms of capital gain between now and 1994.

GRA slow out of the traps at 100p

By Cliff Feltham

GRA, the dog track group now merged with Wembley Stadium, made a disappointing stock market comeback yesterday. The GRA shares had been suspended at 150p while the deal was worked out and some investors were expecting them to reach 200p when dealings started again. But they were traded at about 100p instead.

Mr Brian Wolfson, who has taken over as chairman, was not unhappy at the price. "The suspension of a company's shares causes a lot of pent-up demand among sellers. GRA was also suspended during the big market shake-out and it is possible some people got into trouble with their investments and needed to sell as soon as the opportunity arose."

Mr Wolfson is thinking of changing GRA to incorporate the "magic of the Wembley name" as soon as possible and hopes to unveil more exciting plans for the stadium's development, probably soon after Christmas.

Mr Wolfson, and a consortium, including Mr Tony Clegg, the Mountleigh property group chief, merged their private company which owned Wembley Stadium into GRA, which owns six dog tracks, including Catford and Wimbledon, to create a big leisure group.

Clegg cashes in on trust

By Our City Staff



Fading buyers: Tony Clegg, Mountleigh chairman

Mr Tony Clegg, the property "break-up" specialist who is chairman of Mountleigh Group, has found buyers for nearly half the £271 million portfolio he acquired with the takeover of Pension Fund Property Unit Trust (PFPUT).

The biggest sale, for £35 million, involved a large agricultural site near Chesham, Essex, with considerable development potential. Mr Clegg's team has so far sold 20 of the 45 plots in the portfolio. PFPUT has a wide range of shops, offices and industrial and agricultural properties in Britain, and was taken over by Mountleigh in the face of competition from Trafalgar House.

Since acquiring PFPUT Mr Clegg has also been shopping in Spain, picking up the country's second largest department store chain for £153 million. He still has a small stake in Storehouse, after dropping plans for a full bid when his offer of 445p a share was turned down.

Borland half-year profits up 54%

By Alexandra Jackson

Borland International, the California computer software company quoted on London's Unlisted Securities Market, reported better than expected results for the six months to end-September, showing pretax profits 54 per cent higher at \$4.9 million (£2.7 million), on sales up from \$14.1 million to \$25.6 million.

The second half will include a useful contribution from

Ansa Software, acquired at the end of the reporting period, and should also benefit as new products come on-stream.

Borland's spread sheet product, Quattro, which has already been well-received by the pundits, will be shipped to distributors within the next few weeks. A revamped version of Paradox, the database management system, is scheduled to be shipped in December.

Both these products are expected to accelerate Borland's progress in the corporate market.

Ms Jane Anson, an investment analyst at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the securities house, is forecasting pretax profits of \$13 million for the full year, giving earnings per share of 13.5 cents. The share rose 15p yesterday to 140p.

Ratcliffe agrees merger with United

By Lawrence Lever

The long-awaited merger between United Springs & Steel Group and Ratcliffe Industries, materialized yesterday after being held up by the recent stock market crash.

The merger, in the form of an agreed offer by United for Ratcliffe, values the latter at £11.1 million and its shares at 136.5p each on the basis of seven United shares for every four Ratcliffe. This compares with Ratcliffe's share price of 280p before Black Monday.

Mr John Cowen, the Ratcliffe chairman and former

chief executive of Henry Ansbacher the merchant bank, will become chairman of the combined group which is to be called United Industries. Mr Cowen claimed yesterday that the group would be "the largest manufacturer of coil springs in the UK."

The group will produce springs with a wide variety of applications from precision instruments to heavy automotive engineering.

On Ratcliffe's dramatic share price fall, Mr Cowen said: "We were originally going to bid for them on a seven-for-four basis. Our

shareholders will get exactly what they would have done, in other words 45 per cent of the combined group."

The catalyst for the merger has been BBA Group, the motor components company which has 23.6 per cent of Ratcliffe and 12.4 per cent of United. This will give it 17 per cent of the merged group which it intends to build up to 20 per cent.

Ratcliffe also announced yesterday that it expects to make profits of up to £1 million in the current year. If achieved, this will herald a return to the black for

Ratcliffe for the first time in six years.

United is estimating profits for the year to September 30 of at least £1.6 million before tax and a final dividend of 1.8p.

Mr Brian Fenwick-Smith, the current chairman of United, is retiring while all the other Ratcliffe board members will join the combined group's board. Mr Cyril Smith, Liberal MP for Rochdale and a director of a Ratcliffe subsidiary, will also be part of the enlarged group.

The group will have a market capitalization of almost £25 million.

Guinness good for gumshoes

It is clear that the Guinness affair has been very good for the legal profession — just about every top law firm has been signed up. Now I hear that private detectives in Britain, Switzerland and the US have also been belting up their trenchcoats and padding around the darker corners of the City's seamstress scandal for years.

The gumshoes have been hired to keep track of the unravelling threads of the Guinness affair and the company's missing millions. Herbert Smith, Guinness's lawyer, has used detective Don Collins to carry out various unspecified work in this country. Collins, who is charging a modest £25 an hour for his time, is understandably reticent to explain exactly what work he has done for Guinness. Meanwhile, across the Atlantic, Ivan Boesky, who was given \$100 million of Guinness's money to invest, is being tailed constantly by a pack of private eyes.

The disgraced former "King of the Arabs," who is believed to be close to agreeing to help Scotland Yard's Fraud Squad in its enquiries, was actually booked on several flights from New York to London, including a Concorde flight on September 25. This is apparently a favourite tactic of Boesky, who himself used to have people watched so as to help his information network. His "imminent" arrival on these shores prompted a gaggle of excited detectives to rush off to Heathrow to greet

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Maxwell house-style

Surely there can be no truth in the rumours washing round the City that Eurotunnel may be heading for change of name now that publishing tycoon Robert Maxwell has become involved in the project's financing? The talk suggests that Maxwell, who recently — and, let it be said, reluctantly — changed the title of his

British Printing and Communication Corporation to Maxwell Communication Corporation lest confused foreigners mistook it for a nationalized industry, now wants the Channel Tunnel to be called the Maxwell Tunnel. Presumably so that confused foreigners do not mix it up with Channel 4.

the great man. Alas, he failed to appear.

Quarter daze

Some set their watches by Big Ben, others by the noon-day gun. But if you fancy a change, and don't mind being able to check the time only once every three months, then try Unile-

ver's quarterly profit statement. Without fail, and for as long as time can remember, the group's quarterly results are issued at 12.16pm, on the dot. The curious practice stems from Unilever's Dutch connections, and is a hangover from the lazy days when the Amsterdam stock exchange used to close at 12.15pm. The Amsterdam bourse now trades for longer hours, and 1987 has arrived. So isn't it time somebody told the little boy that he can pull his finger out of the dyke?



"I'm not totally against it, but frankly, old boy, I think they should pay"

● Crisis? What crisis? As Christmas nears, the famous scarf Saks Fifth Avenue Christmas catalogue routinely slapped on the most important desks on Wall Street and in corporate head offices up and down America is offering the following from Santa — ostrich skin briefcases at \$1,650, fur coats at \$39,500 and, for the younger executive, still on pocket money rather than share options, a 15mph miniature Mercedes at \$4,000.

Gone with the wind

David Puttnam, the ousted head of Hollywood's Columbia film studios, no longer has a place to park his Audi Quattro. In a city where the idea of life without a car is even more fanciful than the concept of life without an agent, such a move is regarded as the final cut. Last weekend workmen carted Puttnam's antique Beidermeier furnishings out of his office and painted over his executive parking space. The executive suite, which he had occupied for just over a year, is now being readied for the arrival of the studio's new film division president, Dawn Steel. Puttnam's departure, of course, was no surprise. The English producer last month resigned from his job as boss of Columbia after it merged with Tri-Star Films, and the producer of such box-office and critical hits as *Chariots of Fire* and *The Killing Fields* found himself out in the cold. But it is not likely to be too chilly a homecoming for Puttnam, who was expected to remain on the Columbia lot until December 31. He heads to London with a reported payoff of some \$8 million in his bank account. In the wake of Puttnam's departure Columbia indulged in wholesale firings of executives — many of them brought in by the Englishman — plus massive staff cutbacks in the film and television divisions. "Suddenly," said an anxious studio employee, "there are answering machines where secretaries used to be."

Joe Joseph

The Eurotunnel Share Offer. Is it worth looking into?

For sound advice on the Eurotunnel Share Offer and travel privileges, call Albert E. Sharp & Co., the independent stockbrokers, on Birmingham 021 200 1141.

As official West Midlands Regional Co-ordinators to the offer we'll be taking a look beneath the surface to supply you with all the facts you need to make a well-informed decision. Don't forget the deadline. Call us today.

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Opec unlikely to attain \$20 marker price

By Our Energy Correspondent

There is little likelihood of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries forcing through a price rise to their \$20-a-barrel target after next month's full ministerial meeting in Vienna, the cartel's advisers say.

At present Opec's marker price is \$18 a barrel and many of the 13 member states will be seeking an increase to compensate for reduced earnings after the dollar's fall.

Mr Rilwanu Lukman, the Nigerian oil minister and Opec's president, has suggested the marker price could be put up to \$20 after the Vienna meeting. However, it is understood that reports from the cartel's independent economic advisers in the US and Europe suggest that stock levels in the industrialized world are at such a high level that prices could be forced up only by a disruption to supplies from the Gulf.

In addition, Saudi Arabia, the most dominant member and the one most affected by the dollar's fall, has said it will not adopt the role of swing producer to limit overall Opec output and force prices up.

This has led several Opec countries to revise plans for a lengthy Vienna meeting starting on December 9. Many now feel the meeting could be over within three days and leave the present price and output agreement intact while agreeing to a more firm commitment to put prices up in the new year.

It is believed that the cartel's advisers report the reasons for delaying official price rises. Ironically, this situation has been created by cheating on output quotas by some Gulf states.

Dr Elizabeth Butler, oil analyst with Alexanders Laing



Lukman: seeking rise

& Cruickshank, the broker, believes the December meeting will be short and inconclusive.

She said: "In the summer of 1985, Opec lost both direction and the Saudis' support. In the autumn of 1986, it regained both. Now it has the usual problem of squaring the circle, one in which there is an excess world crude supply and a Saudi Arabia which could be running out of cash and patience."

A new survey by the Economist Intelligence Unit also suggests the threat of a closure of the Gulf and the loss of its 7 million barrels a day oil production is growing stronger, but there is now less danger of oil prices soaring as they did in 1979 when similar fears were voiced.

It says the world oil stockpile is now much larger, that a higher proportion is now in government and not company hands, and that there is an international agreement in force for countries to share stockpiles.

Gas turbines for the future

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

New techniques in power generation could lead to natural gas taking a larger share of the electricity-generating business from coal, once the power industry moves into the private sector, a new study published today forecasts.

The study, by Wharton Econometrics, suggests that in Europe 16 per cent of power could be generated by burning gas, compared with only 5 per cent at present, and that gas-burning generating plant could lead to a more decentralized power system in most countries.

The type of generating equipment suggested is the type that private power generators will hope to be able to use, once the British electricity industry is privatized and the present monopoly on generation enjoyed by the Central Electricity Generating Board is broken up.

However, potential users will also have to overcome present EEC legislation which prohibits the construction of new gas-burning power plant, on the grounds that such use does not exploit the premium properties of gas.

The EEC rule is due for review next year, and already the coal and nuclear lobbies have started work to persuade the EEC to retain it.

The report says that gas-turbine combined-cycle plant, which was developed in the late 1970s, now stands to revolutionize the generation of power from gas.

The plant produces electricity from two different processes within a single system, a gas-turbine generator and a steam generator.

Wharton says it is the combination of the two techniques in a single system that

will enable plant operators to achieve significantly higher generating efficiency than in conventional plant. Thermal efficiencies of 48-50 per cent are available, compared with 43 per cent in conventional gas plants and 38 per cent in a modern coal-fired plant.

At present Britain has only two power stations designed to burn natural gas. Hams Hall Power Station in the Midlands was used only during the miners' strike, and has since been switched off because of the high cost of burning gas in its conventional plant.

The other, at Peterhead, which was operated by the North of Scotland Hydro-Electricity Board, is also switched off as the cheap natural gas it previously had access to, direct from a North Sea oil field, is now used in the

Shell Esso petrochemical plant in Fife.

The report says: "In addition to higher efficiency the plant has other advantages over conventional coal and nuclear plant which together make it even more attractive — environmentally the plant is very acceptable."

"The full construction costs are 25 per cent lower than for coal plant. The construction period is much shorter, measured in months rather than years."

"Modular construction is possible in units of around 150 megawatts so that incremental capacity is added only when needed. This contrasts with the quantum increases associated with typical 1,200 megawatt nuclear or coal plant."

The report adds that such plant could promote decentralization of electricity generation

because plant could be installed much closer to centres of power demand, which in turn would reduce transmission losses and as well as offering opportunities to use some of the waste heat in neighbouring offices or industries.

"An independent development which will also improve the prospects for gas over coal, and coal over nuclear power, is the wave of privatization now sweeping eastwards across Europe."

"Gas is a much more expensive fuel than coal, but the advantages of gas generating plant more than compensate for the price difference. Using today's energy prices and a 10 per cent real discount rate, the cost of generating electricity from gas is over 17 per cent cheaper than coal."

Call for 'even' regime on power

By Our Energy Correspondent

Sir Philip Jones, the chairman of the Electricity Council, said yesterday that he will be pressing the Government to make sure that a privatized power industry is not more tightly controlled by regulations than the gas industry is.

Speaking at a conference on the electricity industry, he said: "I shall not be seeking a regulating regime for electricity more onerous than the one introduced for British Gas. But I shall certainly be pressing hard that the regulating regimes for these two industries should be even-handed."

"Much has been said and written about competition in generation but we must also not forget the need for a privatized electricity supply industry to be competitive with other energy providers."

However, industrial consumers are already making it

clear to Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Energy Secretary, that they are dissatisfied with the British Gas industrial pricing policy and are asking him to make sure that electricity prices for industrial users are more tightly controlled.

Sir Philip also said yesterday that other factors must be considered by the Government when it is planning the industry's privatization.

He said: "I trust the Government will take into consideration the need to ensure our record of secure supply is maintained. In spite of weather problems, especially in rural areas, and the challenge of industrial disputes like the miners' strike, we pride ourselves in keeping supplies flowing uninterrupted for 99.98 per cent of the time."

Sir Philip also said that the Government must continue to

support the nuclear power programme. "I have come to recognize that the benefits of nuclear power far outweigh the risks. Those benefits rest mainly on the twin pillars of cost and fuel diversity. Here in the UK electricity prices compare favourably with those of other major industrial nations."

"But there is one country which is always being held up by our industrial customers as a model for cheap bulk supplies. That country is France which currently produces well over 60 per cent of its electricity through the nuclear route and will increase this to 80 per cent by the end of the century."

"It is a sobering thought that France is able to supply the UK with cheaper electricity than we can generate here. That in itself is testimony to the cost-effectiveness of nuclear generation."



Under pressure: Energy Secretary Cecil Parkinson

Trimoco climbs to pretax profit of £2m in first-half

Trimoco, once the ill-starred, high-technology associate of the Tricentrol oil exploration group and now earning the bulk of its income from vehicle distribution, has produced a substantial turnaround in half-time profits. At the pretax level, they were £2 million compared with £51,000 last time.

The first half includes August, traditionally a peak time for new vehicle registrations, but the company says that it is well placed to consolidate the first-half progress during the quieter, second six months of the year. Prospects for the other activities of the group were encouraging, said the company.

The reorganization after the disengagement from most of the high-technology operations has been completed and the emphasis was now on developing the core motor distribution businesses. The board plans to expand the business in three directions — building up the dealership network, growth of financial services (including vehicle hire and rental) and property.

The group confirmed that it has paid £350,000 to a company in respect of the termination of its agreement to provide the services of the previous chairman, Mr James Longcroft, now a tax exile in Switzerland.

US acquisition
Trinity International Holdings has exchanged contracts to purchase Buckley Publishing of Lisbon, Ohio, US. The consideration, which is payable in cash, is \$3 million (£1.72 mil-

lion), with a further \$1 million payable for land and buildings not owned by Buckley and \$1.82 million for non-competition and agreements negotiated with the previous shareholders.

Thomas Robinson
Thomas Robinson has acquired Dane Motor (Chester) and Dane Motor (Wrexham) for £3 million in cash. The Dane group is an established motor dealership with a Volkswagen-Audi-Golf franchise and sites in Chester, Cheshire and Wrexham, Clwyd. Pretax profit of Dane in the year to June 30 was £619,000 (£375,000) on a turnover of £7.8 million (£5.4 million). Consolidated net assets at June 30 were £443,000.

Interim raised
TR Technology Investment Trust is paying an interim dividend of 0.3p (0.25p) for the six months to September 30. Pretax revenue slipped to £3.34 million (£3.43 million). Earnings per share were 0.53p (0.52p adjusted). The board is considering proposals to reduce the discount to net asset value at which the ordinary shares are trading. It expects to be able to put proposals to shareholders in due course.

Harmony Leisure
Harmony Leisure reports that of the 13.03 million new ordinary shares offered by way of rights, 8 million (61.41 per cent) have been taken up.

Bom Holdings
Agreement has been reached, subject to contract and shareholders' approval, for Bom Holdings to acquire Bevan Trading, a manufacturer of leather furniture. In its last financial year, Bevan showed a profit of about £300,000, before non-recurring directors' bonuses and tax. The company has a quality customer-base with turnover running above £4 million for the current year. The terms of the acquisition include an initial payment of £300,000 followed by profit-related instalments during the next three years.

Nil Bailey payout
There is no dividend at CH Bailey for the year to end-March. Turnover was £5.34 million compared with £5.34 million and pretax profits were £398,625 against £180,698. Earnings per share are 0.680p (0.303p).

No dividend
Stratton Investment Trust will not be paying a dividend for the period from December 18, 1986 to end-September, 1987. Investment income from franked dividends was £211,000 and unfranked £134,000. Net pretax revenue was £62,000. Earnings per share are 0.34p and the net asset value is 170.4p.

Bid dropped
TI Group's shareholders have followed the recommendation of the board in not approving the proposed acquisition of Bundy.

Williamson final
Williamson Tea Holdings has declared a final 10 per cent, making 20 per cent (same), for the year to end-June. Sales were £35.64 million compared with £32.17 million. Trading profit rose to £4.9 million against £3.5 million. Earnings per share were 74.52p (47.56p). The board reports that it would appear unlikely that the group's results for the current year will attain those of the year under review.

APPOINTMENTS

John Charcol: Mr Ron Walton and Mr Rob Marison become joint managing directors.
Honeyuckle Group: Mr Peter Levine has been appointed a non-executive director.
Swiss Bank Corporation: Mr WM Gabitass is to be chief executive, London office, succeeding Mr RE Amstad.
Walter Lawrence Project Management: Mr Ian Ruperi becomes sales and marketing director.
Capital House Investment Management: Sir Robin Duthie joins the board as deputy chairman and non-executive director.
Contemporary Perfumers: Mr Trevor Pearson becomes financial director.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings November 16 Last Dealings November 27 Last Declaration February 18 For Settlement February 28
Call options were taken out on 15/11/87. Abaco, Amstar, British Gas, GEC, GKN, Poly Pack, Control Seas, Harbours Group, Blacks Leisure, Amel, PFI, Dewey Warren, Baxi, Baxi, Sears, Trenwood, S. Fried, Aron Energy, Pappa, Tootal, Eagle Trust, Property Trust, BATS, Conveyance Ind., Normans Group, Camford Eng., Tozer, Karmay, Ferrand, Aera Holdings, Pet. Reuter, Put & Call, BP.

THIRD MARKET

1987		Company	Price	Bid	Offer	Chg
High	Low					
485	185	Abdazol	200	230	nc	
56	18	Amel Am Pk	25	30	+2	
150	110	Alfred Int	130	140	nc	
315	28	Antares	35	40	nc	
111	55	Angelman Int	65	70	nc	
205	115	Boulevard	170	180	nc	
192	61	Camacho	70	80	+3	
102	45	Catalyst	55	60	nc	
203	143	Charles Int	150	165	nc	
110	40	Charm Int	42	52	+5	
159	100	Comac	100	110	+3	
151	75	Coran Int	80	90	nc	
225	135	Crown Eye	147	157	+12	
66	11	Egerton	18	20	-1	
198	65	Fair Int	60	70	nc	
110	62	Gardner (J)	57	67	nc	
73	41	Harbours	40	50	nc	
73	41	Kemp (P)	43	48	+1	
181	56	Leasing Int	67	72	-3	
95	80	Line Tech	70	80	nc	
150	88	Medway	94	94	+1	
80	15	Poly Hops	36	43	-2	
178	95	Seaton	92	92	nc	
87	35	Theme Hops	50	60	nc	
715	133	UPL	128	138	nc	
140	103	Unit Group	105	115	+1	

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	9.00%
Adam & Company	9.00%
BCCI	9.00%
Consolidated Crds	9.00%
Co-operative Bank	9.00%
C. Hoare & Co	9.00%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	9.00%
Lloyds Bank	9.00%
Nat Westminster	9.00%
Royal Bank of Scotland	9.00%
TSB	9.00%
Chbank NA	9.50%

Port of Boulogne and Boulogne Chamber of Commerce and Industry: M. Glade Rostain becomes development director.
Hogg Robinson & Gardner Mountaineer: Mr Anthony Howland Jackson to be deputy chairman and managing director.

How to iron out the peaks in your gas bills

For many people, quarterly bills can be a bit of a headache — particularly heating bills. And most of all the heating bill for the cold winter quarter.

weather over the rest of the year. Take advantage of this helpful scheme now. Send off the coupon for more information.

EASY PAYMENTS SCHEME

With our Easy Payments Scheme, your total estimated gas charge for twelve months is divided into equal monthly instalments — so you don't get quarterly bills.

ACT NOW

With the winter coming up, now's the time to take action. That way, you can spread the cost of keeping warm during the cold

To: Easy Payments, Freepost, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 9BR. I would like more details of your Easy Payments Scheme.

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Gas Region (if known): _____

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BRITISH BUSINESS

small
stores
keen
buying

At Feltham
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falling to the
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THIS WEEK IN
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BRITISH
BUSINESS

Member of the Lloyd's Bank Group

Japan call for overhaul of finance system

From David Watts, Tokyo

A government advisory panel has recommended a thorough review of Japan's financial systems, including the separation of commercial banking and securities business.

Draft recommendations released by a sub-committee of the Financial System Research Committee, said commercial banks and securities companies should be allowed to do business on each other's turf through subsidiaries.

The recommendations also call for the removal of restrictions on banking services, including the separation of short and long-term finance services and of trust banking and other special banking services from ordinary banking business.

The draft says Japan is now required to reform its overall financial systems in response to worldwide financial de-control and international

Holmes à Court says Bell has no need to sell assets



'Not forced to sell Sears stake': Robert Holmes à Court

From Richard Battley, Sydney

Bell Group, the flagship of Mr Robert Holmes à Court, the Australian entrepreneur, had not been asked by bankers to sell any assets, a company spokesman said yesterday.

It was also not interested in selling its 8.3 per cent stake in Sears, the British retailer.

"Sears is a very valuable holding and we will not be forced to sell it for what is being offered," he said.

The Sunday Times in London had reported that Bell was on the brink of selling its Sears stake for Aus\$338 million (£133 million).

The Bell spokesman confirmed, however, that the group had received numerous offers for various assets. These had been rejected because there was "no pressure to sell".

Last Friday, Bell sold seven properties in Perth, the Western Australian capital, for Aus\$206 million, making a profit of Aus\$40 million.

"We were taking advantage of the market-place with a

Spandex rises by 70% to £1.2m at halfway

Spandex, the USM-quoted computerized sign-making equipment distributor, yesterday unveiled a 70 per cent increase in profits before tax for the six months to August 31. The rise, from £740,000 to £1.2 million, was achieved on turnover up from £5.3 million to £9.6 million.

The immediate reaction was a 30p leap in Spandex's share price to 320p before the shares fell back slightly. The shares came to the USM a year ago via a placing at 170p. Earnings per share rose by 56.8 per cent from 5.1p to 8p and the company is paying an interim dividend of 1p.

Honorbilt to buy importer Bejam sets up new division

Honorbilt, the menswear manufacturer and distributor, is paying up to £1.2 million for Robert Van Gyls Designs, which imports and makes suits, jackets and trousers. The initial consideration will be 36,363 new ordinary shares of Honorbilt. The deferred consideration will be based on net profits over a five-year period.

Bejam Group, the freezer centre chain, is setting up a new offshoot to handle its £70 million property portfolio. The group now trades from more than 300 retail outlets of which 73 are freehold. In the current year Bejam will have opened 40 new freezer food centres and Victor Value discount supermarkets and has more in the pipeline for next year.

Volox up to £2.8m

Volox Group, the manufacturer of electrical accessories including vehicle wiring systems, raised pre-tax profits from £2 million to £2.8 million during the opening six months of this year. Sales rose from £31.6 million to £37.3 million.

Mr Peter Frost, chairman, says the spread of activities from car wiring systems and moulded plugs through to specialist communication cables gave opportunities for sound growth. The company is increasing its capital expenditure to ensure future growth. The interim dividend goes up from 3.3p a share to 4p. The shares were 10p easier at 350p.

RTZ offshoot in US buy Connells in expansion

Hi-Tek Polymers, a member of RTZ Group's chemicals division, has bought Lyndal Chemical from the New York-based Millmaster Onyx group for \$9 million (£5.2 million). Hi-Tek is a leading supplier of natural gases.

Connells Estate Agents is buying Hallam Brackett, a firm of commercial property surveyors based in Nottingham and Derby, for \$293,888. Hallam Brackett's profits last year were £186,882.

Pensions help out ANZ on bad debt

From Our Correspondent, Sydney

The ANZ Banking Group offset Third World bad debt provisions of Aus\$158 million (£61.9 million) against an abnormal staff pension fund surplus of the same amount to declare an Aus\$385.1 million profit for the year to September 30, 22 per cent more than the previous year.

The directors said the pension fund terms required the surplus to be transferred to the bank.

Mr Will Bailey, the managing director, said: "Frankly, it is abnormal. By pushing up your bottom line and making your profit better than it is, that is not the right way to present your accounts."

It allowed the bank to increase its bad debt provisions for loans to 22 debt-rescheduling countries according to "guidelines by the Bank of England." These totalled Aus\$1.5 billion, 2.4 per cent of assets (3 per cent in the previous year).

The directors declared a

Car perks 'costing' £1.1bn in revenue

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Company car tax perks cost the Government £1.1 billion a year in lost revenue, new calculations by the Institute for Fiscal Studies show.

Removing the perks would allow the Chancellor almost enough to cut the basic rate of income tax for everyone by 1p in the pound, or raise child benefits by 30 per cent.

The IFS, in the latest edition of *Fiscal Studies*, published today, says the tax privileges on company cars also distort the market for cars and other forms of transport.

Removing the tax privileges could act to the detriment of the British motor industry, the IFS concedes, because company car buyers have a greater tendency to purchase cars assembled in Britain. But it would be more efficient to subsidize the car industry directly, it says.

Company car purchases

Barlow Rand up 25%

Barlow Rand, one of South Africa's larger mining houses, has weathered the country's economic strains and yesterday reported a performance well above expectations for the year to end-September.

The first improvement in margins in seven years, and a strong performance from industrial interests, lifted group pre-tax profits by 25 per cent from R1.08 billion (£315 million) to R1.36 billion. At the attributable level, net profit is 30 per cent up at R496.5 million.

A final dividend of 70 cents makes a year's payment of 100 cents a share compared with 80 cents previously.

Mining operations, which range from gold to coal, performed satisfactorily despite difficult trading conditions for coal. The group's US packaging subsidiary recorded a modest profit increase.

The gearing ratio fell from 63 per cent to 50 per cent at balance sheet date, and net interest paid was 20 per cent lower at R241.3 million.

Western Mining issue raises full A\$838m

By Colin Campbell

Western Mining Corporation, which bravely launched a huge rights issue in September, and then saw its shares fall from A\$9.94 to a low of A\$2.40 in the October crash, has successfully raised the A\$838 million (£327.3 million) it sought.

The mining group had offered new shares in the ratio of one-for-four at A\$5 each. The issue was not underwritten.

When the issue closed on Monday last week, the group was advised that there was no reasonable chance that a trustee could place shares not taken up by ordinary investors

RECENT ISSUES		
EQUITIES		
Albe	90 +2	180
Anglo Leasing	80 +2	180
Banner Homes (100p)	78 +1	180
Brit Pet P/P	118 +10	25
Bute Mining (100p)	23	68
Chartsearch	108	125 +3
Co of Designers (100p)	115	25 +1
Dolphin Packaging (100p)	25 1/2 +1	130
Expature	78 +2	
Fairway Ltd	113	
Hard Rock Cafe	98 +2	
ISA Int (80p)	90	
Knobs Knockers	135	
Lloyd Thompson (170p)	68 +2	
Marcol Group	73	
Power Corp	68	
Record (80p)	114 -5	
Rolls-Royce (170p)	88	
Rural Plan		
Sec Archives	180 -3	
Shelbury (180p)	115 -2	
Sunshine Press (250p)	180 -2	
Sykes-Pokoyant	118	
Torrens Leisure	25	
Tulmar Exhib	25 +1	
URS Int	68	
USDC Int	125 +3	
Wishaw Sales	25 +1	
Zetuna Ltd	130	
RIGHTS ISSUES		
Arms Batcher N/P	2 1/2 -1/2	
Cryoson N/P	2 1/2	
Eagle Trust N/P	4 +1	
Feedex N/P	1 1/2	
Lloyd Thompson N/P	1 1/2	
Southend Stadium N/P	1 1/2	
St Ives N/P	1 1/2	
TR Energy N/P	1 1/2	
(Issue price in brackets)		

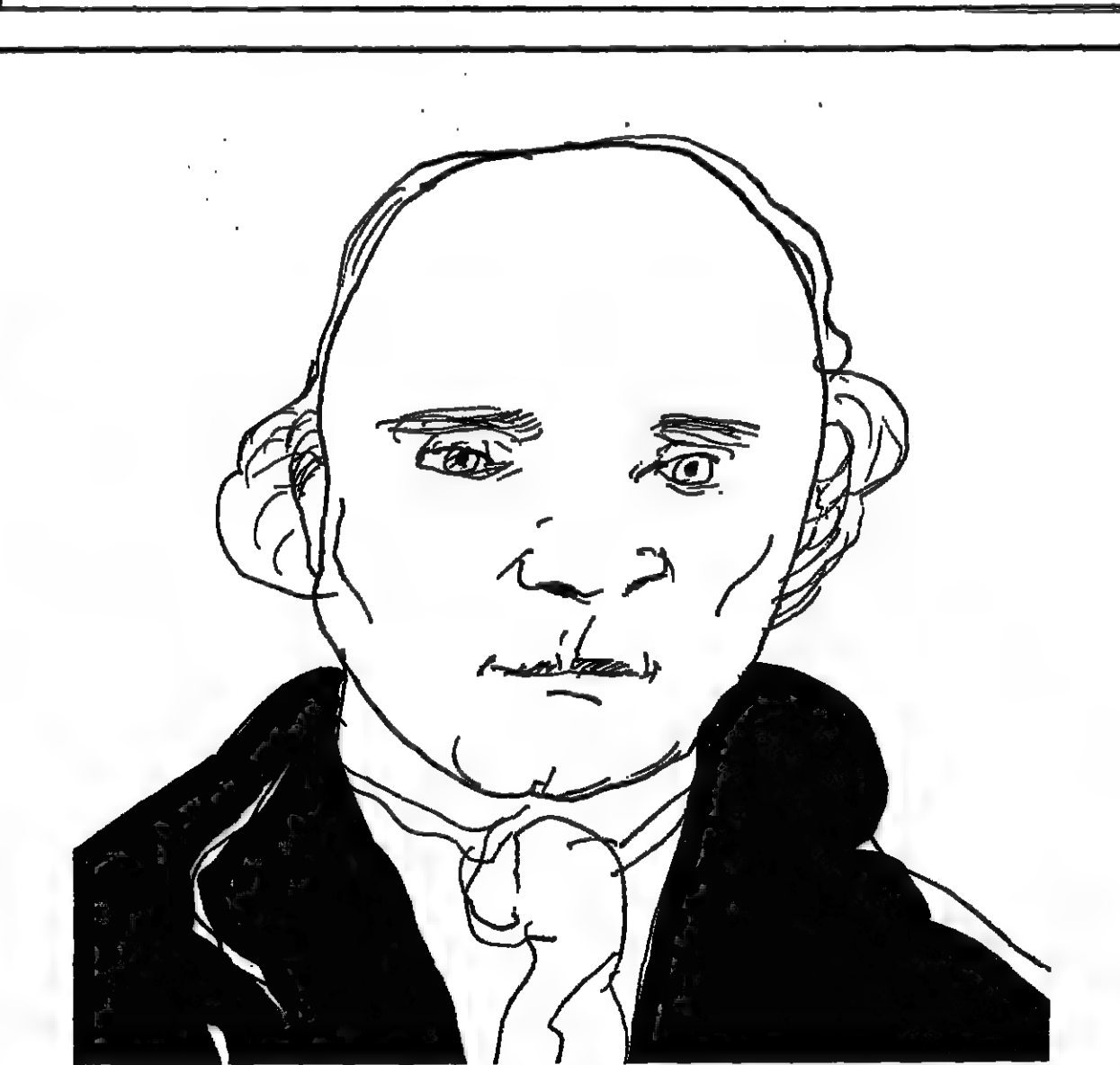
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In 1798, he devised an ingenious experiment with a rod, a wire and two sets of balls. It helped him solve the gravitational constant, the remaining mystery in Newton's equation, enabling him to estimate the earth's mass to be 6,600,000,000,000,000,000,000 tons, more or less. He was right.

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TENDER LIST FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF LEISURE CENTRES

As part of its policy of providing services on a value for money basis, the City Council will be inviting selected companies to tender for the management of the City Council's five indoor leisure centres.

The City Council firmly believes in the importance of providing well managed first class leisure facilities. These centres offer a range of more than 25 different activities to residents, workers and visitors in every part of the city. Two of the centres have been built in the last ten years and the other three have undergone extensive redevelopment to meet current leisure requirements.

From the 1 December 1987 until the 17 February 1988 a detailed specification of this work which has yet to receive formal Council approval can be inspected at the addresses shown below between 10.00am and 4.00pm, Monday to Friday. In addition from the 1 December 1987 any person requiring a copy of the detailed specification may obtain upon one payment of £150 from the Director of Leisure, City of Westminster, City Hall, PO Box 240, Victoria Street, London SW1E 6QP.

It is the Council's intention to invite selected companies to tender for this work and that these invitations will be issued on or soon after the 17 February 1988. If you consider your company can meet the challenge of managing the leisure centres and providing the extensive range of services required to the highest standards, you are invited to write to David Bryant, Director of Leisure, providing details of your experience in the field of leisure management, together with a list of senior personnel and details of their experience and professional qualifications.

Applications must be received by 17 February 1988.

D Bryant, Director of Leisure
City of Westminster, One Stop Services
PO Box 240, City Hall, Victoria Street
London SW1E 6QP.
Tel: 01-798 3684

City of Westminster
One Stop Services
313 Harrow Road
London W2

TT

WALL STREET

Dollar strengthens shares

(Reuters) — Prices opened broadly higher, but blue chips gave up some of their early gains. Brokers said the market rose on hopes of an agreement this week on a budget deficit-cutting plan, but October industrial production gained less than had been expected.

The Dow Jones industrial average was up 25 at 1960 after touching an early high of 1970. Gains led declining issues by three to one.

Pan American World Airways was one of the most active issues, up 3⁸ at 35⁸ on new speculation that the com-

Meanwhile, FAS Acquis

In a newspaper advertisement, the group said the offer and withdrawal rights would

expire on December 15, unless they were extended. FAS was formed by Theodore L. Cross, Warburg, Pincus Capital and Western Pincus Capital Partners.

Cross owns 367,800 Frosch shares, or 23.3 per cent, and the Warburg partnership owns 531,631 shares, or 33.7 per cent.

SINGAPORE

Index moves ahead

Higher Tokyo and Hong Kong stock markets helped Singapore share prices rise across the board yesterday in moderate trading, brokers said. The *Straits Times* industrial index rose 2.7 per cent, to 844.9, from 822.5 on the previous day. The *Straits Times* All-Share index rose 2.5 per cent to 1,000.7 from 976.4. The *Straits Times* Composite index rose 2.5 per cent to 1,000.7 from 976.4. The *Straits Times* Industrial index rose 2.7 per cent to 844.9 from 822.5. The *Straits Times* All-Share index rose 2.5 per cent to 1,000.7 from 976.4. The *Straits Times* Composite index rose 2.5 per cent to 1,000.7 from 976.4.

Brokers said bargain-hunters were encouraged by President Reagan's weekend comments that he saw the US budget deficit being cut by \$80

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LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

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0830 500 116 0830 500 117 0830 500 138 0830 500 139	POPULAR SHARES REPORT WFIN ISSUES - EQUITIES, BONDS AND VENDOR PLACINGS COMPANY NEWS REPORT CITY EXCHANGE DIRECTORY

WORLD CURRENCY BULLETIN from John Percival,
Publisher of Currency Bulletin ☎ **0898 700 185**

0998 500 167	OPTIONS MARKET REPORT	0898 500 175	TODAY'S EVENTS/INTEREST COMMENTS
0998 500 171	STYREX FINANCIAL BULLETIN	0998 500 176	FORTHCOMING INTERESTS, FINALS,
0998 500 172	TODAY'S CURRENCY RATES		ECU STAKES
(only report from ECU countries at 5G intervals)			
0998 500 173	WALL STREET'S FINANCIAL BULLETIN	0998 500 177	FORTHCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

HEAR UP TO THE MINUTE ADVICE WITH
FINANCE LINES FROM **WEEKLY MAGAZINE**

0958 700 161	BP - BEST MORT STRATEGIES
0896 700 162	THIS WEEK'S TOP SHARE
0896 700 163	PRIVATISATION: BUY, SELL OR HOLD
0896 700 164	THIS WEEK'S NEW UNIT TRUST BARGAINS
0896 700 165	FINANCIAL SHA BEAT



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No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Harwell Plc	Motors/Aircraft	
2	Carlson	Oil & Gas	
3	Cater Allen	Banking/Discount	
4	Church Charles	Building/Roads	
5	Providence	Banking/Discount	
6	Hambros	Banking/Discount	
7	ERF	Motors/Aircraft	
8	Debenham Tewson	Property	
9	Hampson Ltd	Property	
10	Bepak	Industrials A-D	
11	Hickling Pentecost	Textiles	
12	BBA	Industrials A-D	
13	Elam	Draperies/Stores	
14	Connolly	Property	
15	IMI (a)	Industrials E-K	
16	WCRS	Paper/Print/Adv	
17	Foster (John)	Textiles	
18	STC (a)	Electronics	
19	BBP Ind (a)	Building/Roads	
20	Alumac	Industrials A-D	
21	Brennan	Paper/Print/Adv	
22	Beard (a)	Paper/Print/Adv	
23	Centenary Ind	Industrials A-D	
24	Travis & Arnold	Building/Roads	
25	Equity & Gen	Banking/Discount	
26	Yorkshire	Textiles	
27	Brake Bros	Food	
28	Evode	Chemicals/Plas	
29	Davies & Met 'A'	Industrials A-D	
30	Hatcham Whampoa	Industrials E-K	
31	Cosden	Building/Roads	
32	Crowther (J)	Textiles	
33	Benton (a)	Draperies/Stores	
34	TSE (a)	Banking/Discount	
35	Amersham	Chemicals/Plas	
36	Acromet	Industrials S-Z	
37	Globe	Industrials S-Z	
38	Dunlop	Electronics	
39	BSR	Electronics	
40	Ford Motor	Motors/Aircraft	
41	Widnes Office	Draperies/Stores	
42	Parkfield	Industrials L-R	
43	Banks (Sydney C)	Food	
44	Catalyst	Paper/Print/Adv	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	WEEKLY TOTAL

BRITISH FUNDS			
High	Low	Open	Close

SHORTS (Under Five Years)			
High	Low	Open	Close

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS			
High	Low	Open	Close

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS			
High	Low	Open	Close

UNDATED			
High	Low	Open	Close

INDEX-LINKED			
High	Low	Open	Close

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP			
High	Low	Open	Close

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Best levels not held

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began November 9. Dealings end Friday. Contango day November 23. Settlement day November 30. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (a) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 26)

High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

BREWERIES						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

BUILDING, ROADS						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

FINANCE, LAND						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

FINANCIAL TRUSTS						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

CINEMAS, TV						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

DRAPERY, STORES						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

HOTELS, CATERERS						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

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High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

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High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

OVERSEAS TRADERS						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

PROPERTY						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

MINING						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

SHIPPING						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

SHOES, LEATHER						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

TEXTILES						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

OILS, GAS						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

TOBACCO						
High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	P/E

11/12/1964

Security risks

THE WEEK

Job fears on

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

ABOVE
UNLESS THERE IS
APRICOT

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

100

150

Edited by Matthew May

COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

Security risk from low salaries?

THE WEEK

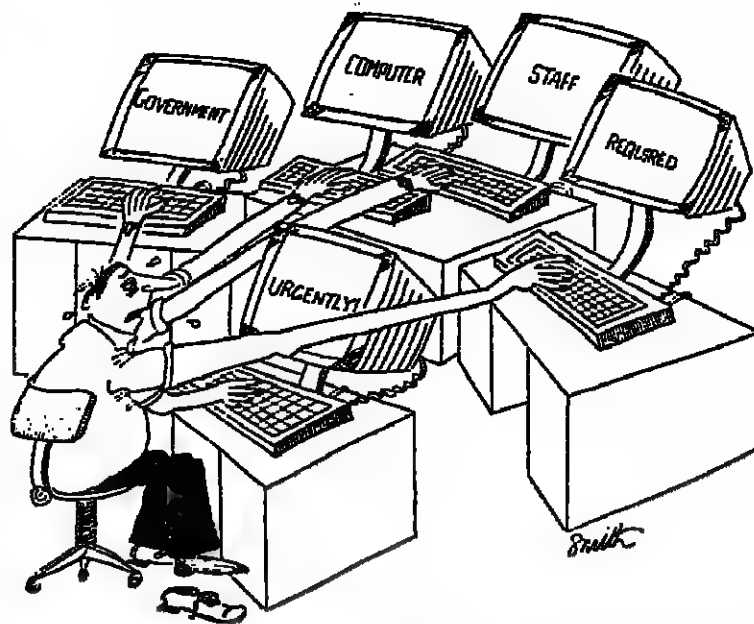
By Matthew May

The shortage of experienced computer staff in government departments is becoming an increasing worry. In an industry that continually worries about skill shortages, the public sector, and the Civil Service, in particular, are seen by prospective employers as having low salaries and few of the perks of the private sector — which makes their problems even more acute.

Last week a report from the independent National Audit Office said that the computer-security risks facing the departments were extensive — and worsening. The report expressed particular concern about the many departments that have no contingency plans to cope with computer disasters or standby arrangements.

It said: "Without adequate computer security, government operations may be disrupted, public assets may be put at risk and the confidentiality of commercial, personal or national security information might be breached."

The division of the CCTA that looks after that area is losing a fifth of its staff each year, is unable to recruit



experts and for most of 1985-86 had vacancies in four of five team leader posts.

With the Government unable to compete with private-sector salaries, the use of consultants has increased dramatically. In 1986-87 the budget for computer security was £588,000 and £320,000 of that went on consultancy fees.

That inability by the Civil Service to recruit experienced computer staff was shown most recently in a scheme

to hire up to 250 experienced programmers. Only 68 staff were appointed and only 13 of those were people from the private sector.

Before this scheme, the 20,000 people working in information technology in 40 government departments had conventionally been taken on straight from school or university. Internal promotion was the usual way of replacing the experienced computer staff leaving for the larger salaries of the private sector. A survey from the

National Computing Centre earlier this year found that public-sector salaries were below the national average for all but two of the 27 job categories in computing that the NCC monitors with the largest gaps in London and the South-East.

Though special allowances for information technology staff have been introduced — up to £2,000 extra for certain grades — the Government shows no sign of following the City's answer to computer-staff shortages: paying whatever it takes to get the right staff.

Computer managers working in the finance sector generally, for example, are earning more than £22,000 a year — a premium of nearly £5,000 over the national average. The top jobs can fetch well over £50,000.

Little surprise then that the Civil Service is finding it hard to compete when hiring computer jobs into its conventional grading structure. But the problems it causes and the increasing move towards using private consultancy and software firms on contract is likely to turn out more expensive.

While central government has relatively modest plans for increasing expenditure on information technology generally — up to £1.65 billion in 1987-88 compared to £1.41 for 1985-86 — the amount spent on outside consultancy and private-sector staff in government IT is set to rise to £110 million over the same period, which is more than double.

Unisys spends £170m to grow even bigger

By Calvin Sims

Unisys, the huge computer company formed by the merger of Sperry and Burroughs, has agreed to acquire Timeplex, a leading supplier of communications networks, in a stock swap valued at more than \$300 million (about £170 million).

The acquisition gives Unisys, the third-largest computer maker behind IBM and Digital Equipment, access to network-communications technology that has become crucial to the information-processing industry.

The move also represents the first major expansion since the merger.

Analysts said that the offer, which requires the approval of Timeplex's shareholders, re-

presented a clear value to shareholders. Unisys said the final price of the offer could not be determined until the transaction was closed — in about four months.

Timeplex, based in New Jersey, makes long-distance networking equipment for voice and data communications.

Unisys said it planned to operate Timeplex as a separate unit. Unisys Networks, to be headed by Timeplex's chairman and chief executive, Edward Botwinick.

The network's division will build communications networks that manage all forms of information, including voice, video and data, for large corporations and governmental agencies. Timeplex's transmission products and

services are based on the so-called T-1 circuit technology, one of the fastest-growing segments of the communications market. These circuits can carry more than 1.5 million bits of information a second.

Other companies are also entering the T-1 market. IBM recently agreed to sell T-1 switches made by Network Equipment Technologies, one of Timeplex's rivals.

Jay Stevens, an analyst with Dean Witter Reynolds, commented: "Anyone who expects to become a major player in the computer industry must have some type of communications link because customers are asking them to design systems that meet all of their information needs."

Richard Sarson notes a change on the exhibition front

Computer recruitment fairs are a recent addition to the ways of finding experienced staff in the midst of a severe skills shortage. Now they are changing shape and aiming at more specific groups of people.

Last week, for example, saw DEC Checkpoint, a fair specifically for people with experience of computers made by Digital Equipment.

It followed a similar one for IBM people in the summer and is organized by the same group that presents more general fairs for computer people.

The number of eager candidates turning up for these mini-fairs is smaller than the thousands who attend the general, but organizers believe that the employers who take stands face a better chance of seeing candidates with the right experience.

The drawback of specialized fairs is that they do not generate the revenue — with say 20 stands rather than 40 — to publicize themselves enough to draw enough visitors.

The other big fair organizer in Britain, Intro UK, is also branching into new fields by organizing a Recruitment Village at a show for electrical and electronic engineers next February. It is also to run the first technology graduate

Fairly specialist



recruitment fair in Hammer-smith next January.

Twenty employers are to take stands — half of them from the computer industry. Some of them fled the traditional milk round of universities more and more cost-effective and are looking to the fair to provide a cheaper way of finding the bright graduates who will be the technology managers of the 1990s.

British Telecom, Rank X-

erox and Datalogic are among the IT companies present and there are many users looking for computer staff.

By giving graduates a fair of their own, Chris Boon of Intro is hoping to divert them from the other fairs, which are intended for experienced staff only.

The stands at the first recruitment fairs in 1986 were swamped by graduates. Since then, Intro tries to divert them down a special channel, where they are directed to stands, which have shown an interest in seeing recent graduates.

The Visit Fair is even tougher — not wanting to let them in at all, but sending them home with a pack of recruitment literature.

The development of specialized fairs does not mean the end of more general fairs — Intro UK has one planned in Hammer-smith on November 27-28 and eight are planned for 1988, in Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol and Edinburgh.

Visit will also be hosting four large fairs in central London next year, the first in March.

Several employers have accepted them as a useful supplement to other ways of recruiting and some take stands at every fair.

Job fears on competitiveness

From Geoff Wheelwright in Boston

Large corporations and the people who plan to work for them in the high-technology sector will have to concentrate further on competing in world markets if they expect to have any future, an industry conference was told here last week.

John Young, president of Hewlett-Packard and a member of President Ronald Reagan's commission on industrial competitiveness, said that jobs may be lost and opportunities missed unless the West could absorb the lessons in competition provided by the Pacific Rim countries such as Korea, Japan and Taiwan.

There was also a warning for European countries, which, he suggested, might start getting squeezed out of these world markets. He added:

"There are some very different competitors among the newly industrialized countries and their trade with the US has already exploded. The trade with Pacific Rim countries, for example, is substantially greater than with all of Europe and will be twice that shortly."

The conference, organized by Seybold, also saw policy statements from the likes of Apple, IBM, DEC and Microsoft. All were concerned with the current challenges to management and the effect these have on competitiveness, productivity and jobs.

IBM's senior vice-president, Allen Krowe, for example, explained that the world's biggest computer company was having to make wholesale changes to its long-standing aggressive recruitment policies. He said: "We had 405,000 regular employees

and have reduced that to 389,000 — a major part of that being through our retirement incentive scheme."

IBM also estimates that it has cut down spending further on employment through encouraging employees to take all their vacations, making a grant of voluntary unpaid leave easier and reducing overtime.

In addition, anyone working for IBM now may also find themselves moving to different jobs in the company through what it calls "workload rebalancing", which involves a preference for retraining and redeploying existing employees over hiring new ones.

Management levels have come in for particular attention. "While we have reduced by 8200 the number of employees working at headquarters, have reduced the man-

agement population by 2,000 and reduced layers of management", said Mr Krowe, "we have also increased the number of programmers and engineers worldwide by 7,000 and sales people by 11,000."

Programmers and systems analysts might also take heart from last week's Boston launch of a new software-development system from Hewlett-Packard. Designed to build software for personal computers, it is based on Microsoft's popular Windows system and provides powerful tools for the swapping of information between applications as well as the writing of special recorded instructions which allow you to run and control several computer applications at once.

Thus users could write an annual business report under the system, called New Wave, which includes some finan-



John Young, Hewlett-Packard president: A warning for European countries

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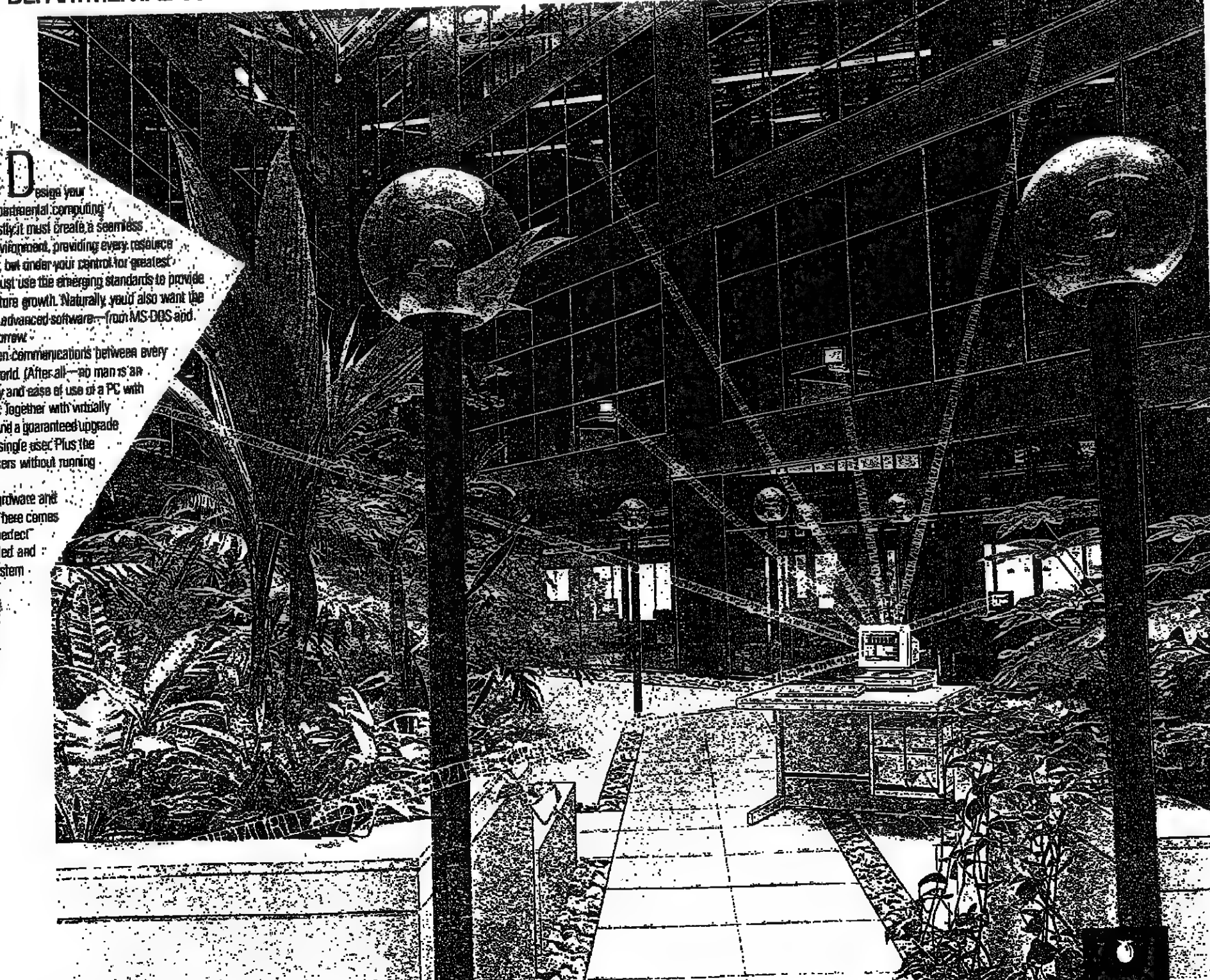
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Progress from Compec

Today's start of the Compec Show at London's Olympia, which runs until Thursday, could produce a greater commitment to the standard for open systems (OSI) that should eventually get rid of some of the incompatibility between different brands and types of equipment.

Organizers of the show, Cahners Exhibitions, questioned 1,500 data processing and systems managers and found nearly nine out of 10 said their choice would be adversely affected if the manufacturer did not have clear plans for conforming with OSI standards. The show will also include a round-the-world demonstration of another emerging standard, X.400, designed to let electronic mail be sent between currently incompatible systems.

Some British computer firms have also been busy at the tables in Las Vegas trying to drum up more business at the huge Comdex exhibition held earlier this month. Sir Clive Sinclair, for example, was seen holding discussions with distributors there about taking a US version of his new 288 laptop computer while Amstrad's founder, Alan Sugar, was busy unveiling his recent battery operated portable. But it was not the two

British portables which stole the show in the US. Atari gave details of a new computer which features the innovative transputer developed by British firm Immos. The new machine, the Atari, will be unique in the cheaper end of the computer market in that you can add up to four more computer processors, which Atari says will give power equivalent to a minicomputer for the price of a PC.

A computer version of The Times crosswords is now available on both tape and disc for Acorn's BBC, Master Compact and Electron.

BRIEFING

machines. The program, which is to be the start of a series, contains 50 crosswords that appeared in The Times in 1983. If you cannot answer a particular clue, the software will offer help either by describing the type of clue — anagram or acronym, for example — or it can give the first letter of the answer.

Different scores are given depending on the amount of help needed. The program was developed by David Akenhead and his father Edmund — crossword editor of The Times from 1966-83. Further information from 061-228 6333.

published by Times Books, 16 Golden Square, London W1R 4BN and costs from £9.95 to £29.95 depending on version.

The information-systems company Honeywell Bull is to cut its American staff by 8 per cent during the next year. The 1,600 jobs lost will come from attrition, early retirement and lay-offs. The move is the first big consolidation since the company was formed in March by Honeywell, Compagnie des Machines Bull, the French state-owned computer maker, and NEC of Japan.

Desktop publishing has now established itself as more than a passing fad. Recognizing that there is likely to be considerable interest at the cheaper end of the personal computer market, the National Computing Centre has produced a guide to the topic for owners of the Amstrad PCW word processor.

It covers how to produce text and illustrations, the integrated software, available and ways of improving material produced on a PCW that is intended for duplication. Desktop publishing with the Amstrad PCW by Michael Milne costs £9.50 and is published by the NCC. Further information from 061-228 6333.

Doubts on super advances

While recent advances in the field of superconductivity appear promising, researchers have expressed caution that the work has not been validated.

There has been a flurry of reports within the last year and a half that a new class of compounds appears capable of carrying electricity with little or no resistance at close to room-temperature.

Such a development could have far-reaching implications, sharply reducing the cost of electricity and opening the door to many applications such as immensely small, powerful and cheap computers.

Robert Cava, a researcher with Bell Laboratories, said: "By no means is the scientific community unanimous in accepting these reports as being true."

Mr Cava and other leading researchers in the field believe the signs of superconductivity that have been reported have only been fleeting, making them difficult to reproduce or study in detail. "Reproducibility in other laboratories is an extremely difficult step," he said. "Nobody has been able to learn enough about this effect to be able to make it reproducible so it can be studied."

Vitaly Ginzburg of the Lebedev Physical Institute in the Soviet Union agreed: "It is a difficult thing to prove." In this case you must have reproducibility and stability," he said.

A primary problem is that the amount of superconductive material that has been produced is apparently only a small part of the samples researchers work with.

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OS-2 opens the door to new uses

JOBSCENE

By Eddie Coulter

The new OS-2 operating system developed jointly by IBM and Microsoft is bound to result in a vast number of new applications programs as software developers seek to take advantage of the system's new capabilities.

More specialist software people will be required who understand OS-2 though it is not the only area where new developments are taking place.

New operating systems, data bases, protocols, and standards are being introduced with alarming regularity. Alarming because all these new computing aspects require software and

A shortage of skilled staff

systems people to learn new skills before the products can prove beneficial to end users.

New skills have to be taught and so more people are required to provide the training. With an existing shortage of information-technology staff in general, there is also a shortage of experienced trainers in particular.

The lack of trainers ultimately fuels the shortage of skilled staff generally.

"One of the fundamental problems concerns the role of trainers and their status," says David Goodall who is manager of Sphinx — one of the

two British companies so far authorized by Microsoft to provide training for OS/2.

Sphinx is now going through a crash programme to transfer OS-2 awareness to new trainers in order to meet the flood of demand for training in the new operating system.

However, Mr Goodall believes the company could be training even more people, not only for OS-2 but also for other courses where demand is up 40 per cent on last year. The problem is that there are just not enough skilled training people around.

He said: "The problem is not money. Trainers in information technology are paid an equivalent salary to someone in software development or support with equipment skills."

Typically, salaries for trainers are in the order of £15,000 a year for someone in their late twenties with two years experience of, say, Unix. Even that salary, says Mr Goodall, could be a useful proposition to state-school teachers who are prepared to spend two years learning new skills.

Senior technical trainers can expect to get a £20,000 to £25,000 package including a car, while those capable of teaching technical skills with a sales and marketing emphasis can earn up to £28,000 a year.

So if the pay is not the problem, it must be, as Mr Goodall says, the image of training.

"Training has a neutral image," he says, "and part of



David Goodall: Even more people could be trained

the problem is that no one is telling people in their formative working years that one of their career options could be in training.

Limiting ability of companies

"There is possibly a need for a professional body to give a voice and status to the IT training community. But there is also a responsibility on the computer using community to give training the status it deserves."

It is computer users as well as manufacturers that must pay heed to training needs, believes Mr Goodall, as the lack of training staff inevitably limits the ability of British companies to maintain the momentum they need to keep up in the international race to keep ahead in information technology.

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& MARKETING DIRECTOR IN THE
PRIVATE HEALTH CARE SECTOR

The full time position includes direct selling and promotional work in and around the London area in addition to PA duties, and therefore requires a car owner.

The candidate should have a nursing or medical background, a proven track record in sales, and a proven track record in sales. If you are between 25 and 35 years of age and wish to apply for this challenging yet interesting position with a young and growing organisation, then please contact Rosemary Neal in person together with your full CV at:

Heartscreen Ltd, Administrative
Offices, Suite 500, Chesham House,
160 Regent Street, London, W1R 5FA.

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER RNHA

Applications are invited for the above, which is a new post created by the rapid expansion of the Registered Nursing Home Association.

Applicants should have journalistic experience and a good knowledge of and practice in the skills of Public Relations. Salary will be £13,500 - subject to review after 6 months and on 1st January in each year thereafter. Please write for an application form and job description to:

Registered Nursing Home Association,
Chesham House,
160 Regent Street,
London W1R 5FA

HORIZONS

A guide to
career opportunitiesWomen show the way
from art to science

An increasing demand for engineers and technologists, and a national shortage have led to a need for people to convert from the arts to the sciences.

In the past 10 years, although the total number of people employed in manufacturing industry has fallen from 3.2 million to two million, during the same period the number of qualified engineers and technologists has increased from 56,000 to 82,000.

The demand will increase still further, but, at the moment, there still aren't enough suitably-qualified people available. Not only is the pool of 18-year-olds diminishing, but the percentage of those taking maths and physics at A-level is declining too. And maths and physics are normally essential requirements for degrees in engineering and technology.

Deeply concerned about this shortage, the National Advisory Body for Public Sector Higher Education (NAB) has been trying to provide more places in polytechnics and colleges for people to read engineering and technology. But students have not come forward in the required numbers, mainly because they didn't have the entry requirements.

So we now have HITECC (Higher Introductory Technology and Engineering Conversion Courses), the successful new scheme allowing people whose A-levels do not include maths and physics to change direction, in order to switch to

The problem of filling
the thinning ranks of
students in the sciences

is being tackled by a new
body which no longer

looks on its speciality as
a male preserve, says

Joan Llewelyn Owens

The new courses started this September. About 460 potential engineers have enrolled. A quarter of these are women, a figure well exceeding the national average of women on engineering courses, which is about 10 per cent.

I have asked some of the HITECC course tutors about the sort of people who have been accepted for this year's courses. The course at the Polytechnic of North London is solely for women; more girls than boys tend to opt out of physical science at school. Twenty-four women have enrolled from mixed cultural backgrounds and with varied educational and work experience. About half are under 25. There are five graduates in subjects including languages, psychology and music.

North-East London Polytechnic reports full enrolment (three with degrees and 40 per cent women). Thames Polytechnic has experienced considerable interest from mothers qualified in the arts, with grown-up children. These women wanted to take the course as a qualification in its own right which would give them an entry into technical careers. Though initially they did not plan to go on to take a degree or diploma, Thames does accept such applicants.

Brighton Polytechnic has accepted 20, in the age range of 18-44. Some of the more mature candidates do not have A-levels, but maths at O-level was recommended. One girl speaks fluent Mandarin Chinese and wants to study design, but not in an art college. Another student has been making a living writing video games, and a third had his interest in engineering awakened when working with machinery as a swimming pool supervisor.

HITECC students pay no fees, are paid a non-means-tested cost of living allowance by the Manpower Services Commission, and receive an extra book allowance. Those under 19 receive the Youth Training Scheme allowance, which is currently £28.50 a week. On reaching the age of 19 they will get an allowance from the MSC of about £41 a

week, including a lunch allowance. In certain circumstances, help is given with travel costs.

Normally, HITECC students are expected to attend a course nearest to their home. However, if a college is running a higher education course in a particular subject, and because of this includes certain studies in its HITECC course, then there is a special licence to enable students to attend that course.

In such a case, the MSC will provide a grant for living away from home. Similar grants are available for those living too far away from their nearest college for HITECC, but not, of course, for local education authority mandatory grants for a second degree or HND course.

The 26 colleges will be moderating one another's courses, and the completion of a HITECC course can be used as an entry qualification to any of the other colleges at degree or diploma level, unless the course is a specialist one. But will HITECC courses be accepted by colleges and universities outside the scheme?

Answering that question, Margaret Jack, Assistant Secretary (Academic) of NAB, said: "I feel almost certain that other polytechnics and colleges will accept HITECC students, for everybody is facing the same problems — inability to recruit to engineering and technology

MSC-provided grant for
living away from home

degree courses. I think we may lose some of our students to universities".

In addition to providing an avenue into higher education, HITECC offers many students a chance to gain relevant work experience. NAB has received some support from large companies willing to offer paid work experience. They realize that in converting arts people into engineers, one ends up with engineers who are literate and whose education has been broadly based — not always so in the case of those who have completed conventional forms of training.

Assistance has also been received from the European Social Fund, enabling Buckinghamshire College of Higher Education to offer students over the age of 23 the opportunity to undertake 12 weeks' study or work placement in another member state of the EEC, with travel costs and subsistence met by the college. It seems highly likely that the HITECC programme will continue in 1988.

Further details of HITECC can be obtained from the National Advisory Body for Public Sector Higher Education, Metropolis House, 22 Percy Street, London W1P 9FF. 01-637 1132.

Locums
Saudi Arabia

Rezyat Medical Services requires Locums at Consultant and Senior Consultant levels in the following specialties:

Anaesthetics

Dermatology

Endocrinology

ENT

Internal Medicine

(all specialties)

Maxillo Facial

Surgery

Neonatology

Neurosurgery

Ophthalmology

Paediatrics

Paediatric

Surgery

Radiology

Priority will be given to candidates available in the near future for periods of one/two months duration.

Excellent salary paid locally free of tax.

Telephone now for an application form and further information to Janet Grieve on 01-499 6171, or write to her at Rezyat Europe Ltd, 52 Mount Street, London W1Y 5RE.

PROFESSIONAL
ADVISERS
Re-Advertisement
Two Posts

The persons appointed will be members of a team of Professional Staff responsible for the execution of all the functions of the Welsh National Board, but each Adviser will have specific responsibilities as outlined below.

POST No. 1
The person appointed will share with one other officer the specific responsibility to provide advice on professional and educational matters relating to the basic and post-basic education of Nurses on Parts 1, 2 and 3 of the register.

Applications are invited from nurses on Part 1 of the register with a recordable qualification as a Nurse Teacher and a minimum of two years' experience in a post at or above the level of Senior Tutor or equivalent.

POST No. 2
The person appointed will have specific responsibility to assist the Board and its Committees in formulating and implementing policy through the development and maintenance of a comprehensive information system incorporating manpower, education and research data. A special interest in the process of curriculum development, the associated examination/assessment procedures and the promotion of research awareness would be desirable.

Applications are invited from Registered Nurses, Midwives or Health Visitors who possess a relevant degree and have had experience in the field of education and research.

Salary Scale: NHS A&C Scale 24, ie from £14,688 to £18,619 pa (currently under review).

For further information about these posts and application forms, please apply to the Chief Executive Officer, Welsh National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting, Floor 13, Pearl Assurance House, Greyfriars Road, Cardiff CF9 9SG.

Tel: 0222 395535.

The closing date for receipt of completed applications is Friday, 11th December 1987.

WNB

BOWDEN HOUSE
CLINIC
Lower Road, Harrow-on-the-Hill
Middlesex HA1 3JL
Telephone: 01-864 0221STAFF NURSES
(RMN)

We are in the midst of a multi-million pounds development programme and we are looking for enthusiastic and dynamic Staff Nurses for this progressive independent clinic situated in its own extensive grounds at Harrow-on-the-Hill.

Successful applicants should expect to work in a multi-disciplinary therapeutic team setting.

Uniform, subsidised meals and single accommodation is available. Other fringe benefits.

Informal visit/application form and job description from: Mr J. Horsburgh, Senior

Nursing Officer, Bowden House Clinic, London Road, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex HA1 3JL.

Tel: 01-864 0221

As part of our community developments, we require an enthusiastic Sister/Charge Nurse Grade II, with experience in helping those with drug related problems. This is a new post and will demand a great deal from the appointed applicant. You will be working within a framework of multi disciplinary support but remain responsible to the Senior Nurse (Community).

In exchange for your commitment and skill we are prepared to support and encourage your professional development.

Informal form and job description available from Mrs. T. Roberts, Nursing Administration, St. Cadoc's Hospital, Caerleon, Gwent. Tel: (0633) 421121 ext. 241.

Closing date: 30th November, 1987.

PUBLIC
APPOINTMENTSME
DIRECTOR

A Director is required by our rapidly expanding Charity based in Essex to head a small team of committed enthusiastic staff, and to be responsible for the daily management, financial strategy and the production of plans for national growth, training and development. The post calls for enthusiasm, experience, proven organisational and public relations skills, and impressive personal qualities. Age 30-50 preferred. Salary negotiable, but not less than £16,000.

Send brief career details for full application form to Mrs P. Seares, The ME Association, PO Box 6, Stamford-le-Hope, Essex. Closing date 30th November.

Applications are invited for
appointment as

Secretary and
Registrar

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S
HOSPITAL MEDICAL
COLLEGE
(University of London)

St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College is an expanding Medical College with an extensive research commitment. The Secretary and Registrar is expected to play a key role in the successful operation of the College and in the development and administration of the campus at Charterhouse Square. For this reason, a first class Administrator is required. University experience, though desirable, is not essential.

Emoluments in Administrative Grade 6 of around £30,000 p.a. are envisaged. For further particulars please write to: The Dean, The Medical College of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, West Smithfield, London EC1A 7BE or telephone 01 606 7474.

Closing date: 14 December 1987.

FRIENDS OF THE ELDERLY
(Charity Est. 1905)Require
SECRETARY ASSISTANT
TO THE PERSONNEL OFFICER

To provide a full secretarial service and to assist the Personnel Officer in this busy department administering over 500 staff in the Society's homes and nursing wings. Must have personnel experience and be able to handle enquiries in the absence of the Personnel Officer. The successful applicant will be self-motivated and will have a mature, commonsense outlook, together with the ability and discretion to handle sensitive information and to work with staff at all levels.

Please apply with c.v. to:
Staff Secretary,
Friends of the Elderly,
42 Ebury Street, London SW1W 0LZ.

ROWETT RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Bucksburn, Aberdeen, AB2 9SBHead of
Biochemistry Division

Applications are invited for the post of Head of Biochemistry Division from senior scientists with a proven record of independent research in animal biochemistry and considerable senior management experience.

The person appointed would assume administrative responsibility for a large number of individually-funded sections and a senior management responsibility to the Institute as a whole. The Head of Division would also be expected to make a significant contribution towards the scientific output of the Institute through his/her own personal research programmes although such activities would be secondary to the main management function. Salary range: £18,756 to £25,335.

Non-contributory pension scheme. The Institute is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Application form and further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary of the Institute. Tel: 074 72261 Ext. 268. Closing date 7th December 1987.

KENNET DISTRICT
COUNCILCHIEF
PERSONNEL
OFFICER

£18,204 x £456 (4) - £20,028

Applications are invited from I.P.M. corporate members qualified by examination and having substantial experience at a senior level, preferably in local government.

The postholder is responsible to the Clerk and Chief Executive for the full range of personnel management functions including industrial relations, health and safety and the management of a successful YTS scheme. The person appointed will play a key role in the advancement of the Council's management processes and staff development system. He or she will also be responsible for the management of central office services and the development of new systems based on modern office technology.

Kennet District Council is administered from modern, centralized offices in the historic town of Devizes. It covers approximately 379 square miles of rural Wiltshire, a large proportion of which is in areas of outstanding natural beauty including Marlborough, the Vale of Pewsey and Avebury.

Application forms, returnable by 4 January 1988, together with further details are available from Mrs Mary Dixxon on Devizes 4911, Ext. 222 or by writing to the Chief Personnel Officer, Brownlow, Bath Road, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 2AT.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION
ASSISTANT CHIEF
EXECUTIVE

The Equal Opportunities Commission is recruiting a member of its Senior Management Team at its Headquarters in Manchester. The person appointed will share in developing practical and imaginative policies to promote equality of opportunity and eliminate discrimination between sexes, planning the Commission's work and managing a section of its activities.

We are looking for a person who can show managerial skills and experience of social policy issues as well as an understanding of and commitment to the Commission's task.

Salary Scale: £18,785 - £25,335 p.a. Conditions of service include non-contributory pension schemes.

Application forms and further details from: Personnel Section, Equal Opportunities Commission, Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3JH

Ext. 225
Closing date for applications: 11th December, 1987.

WEYMOUTH AND PORTLAND
BOROUGH COUNCILWEYPORT SERVICES
Financial
Administrator

- NEW KEY POST
- ATTRACTIVE SOUTH WEST LOCATION
- RELOCATION PACKAGE
- CAR ALLOWANCE
- UP TO £15,162 p.a.

Weyport Services will supply the Borough's direct Labour services for the future.

Reporting to the Works Manager, you will have the opportunity to be in at the inception of the new structure and to assist in shaping its operations. You will be professionally qualified - any relevant discipline - and have the experience and commitment to succeed in a challenging and competitive environment.

The area of Weymouth and Portland is most attractive and offers excellent housing and recreational facilities. A relocation package is available and improvements are under review. Temporary housing is available.

Interested candidates are invited to discuss the post by telephoning the Deputy Borough Engineer, John Sherlock on Weymouth (0305) 761222 Ext. 250.

Information pack is available from the Personnel and Management Services Section, PO Box 21, Municipal Offices, North Quay, Weymouth, Dorset DT4 8TA, or telephone Weymouth (0305) 761222 Ext. 316.

CLOSING DATE for receipt of completed application forms: Friday November 27th 1987.

Chief Accountant
Salary up to £16K
+ benefits

We are situated in the fastest growing district in the country and as such have the demands of both urban and rural areas to meet as well as the challenges presented by the rapid increase in population.

We are now seeking an ambitious, qualified accountant who is looking for an interesting career move to join our team in the Accountancy and Budgeting Section. We have a clear recognition of the contribution to be made by a highly motivated workforce and therefore are offering an impressive benefits and relocation package to include:

- car loan facilities
- car user allowance
- removal and incidental expenses to a maximum of £4,000
- mortgage subsidy scheme
- assistance with the cost of bridging loans
- temporary housing if required
- consideration is also being given to the introduction of a merit pay scheme

If you wish to discuss any aspect of the post, please call Peter Truncley on (0480) 42161 but in any event applications in your own style should reach us by 30th November 1987.

Claire Livingston, Personnel Section, Huntingdonshire District Council, Pathfinder House, St. Mary's St., Huntingdon, Cambs. PE18 6TN.

DISTRICT COUNCIL

LIBRARY

SOVA DIRECTOR

RECORDS ASSISTANT

COMPUTING OFFICER

01-481 1066

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

01-481 1066

LIBRARIAN

To develop information resources for a major Management Consultancy... by being directly involved in its business.

London

Strategic Planning Associates is an international Management Consultancy specialising in providing solutions to complex business problems by linking strategic analysis with the powerful tools of information technology.

A growth rate of over 30% a year is testimony to the success of our approach.

Information is at the heart of everything we do. Our consultants lean heavily on the resources of our own library, and they need a librarian capable not only of running an efficient operation but also developing its resources and playing a pro-active role in researching new sources of relevant material for our Tele-communications practice.

In short, it means becoming directly involved with consultants in their projects and, through an understanding of their needs, making a significant contribution to the business. In time it could even lead to a future in analysis and consultancy, depending on the individual.

Certainly it is a challenge offering rare scope to a science-oriented graduate with a recognised Librarianship qualification and up to 3 years' experience. You must be an adroit user of computerised systems and comfortable with at least one European language. Above all, you must be interested in the management of information and its application to commercial issues.

The rewards? In addition to excellent prospects you can look forward to an attractive salary backed by a valuable package of benefits.

Please contact Anne Turnbull, Strategic Planning Associates, 1-3 Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7HJ. Tel: 01-235 5444.

STRATEGIC PLANNING ASSOCIATES

WASHINGTON D.C. LONDON GENEVA SINGAPORE

FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE

The Quebec Government Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is recruiting a Commercial Officer to work in the Quebec Government office in London.

The successful candidate's first responsibility will be to promote in the UK food products and services from Quebec. Secondly, he or she will be covering the major European countries, including the UK, to promote technology exchanges, joint ventures and investment opportunities.

Candidates should possess a university degree, several years experience in a food and agriculture business and trade environment, in both the UK and continental Europe, and a good knowledge of national and international trade in these products.

A working knowledge of spoken/written French and of one or more other European languages would be a decisive asset. Salary offered is currently in the range of £17,000 to £22,000.

Please send detailed CV to:

The Economic Counsellor
Quebec Government Office
59 Pall Mall
London SW1Y 5JH

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
£9265 - £11565 including London Weighting

The National Council for Vocational Qualifications (NCVQ) wishes to appoint more Administrative Officers to its headquarters in Euston, Central London.

If you are successful, you will work closely with NCVQ's Development staff on a variety of duties associated with the development of vocational qualifications and their standards.

You will need to have a clear, confident use of verbal and written English, and be able to assimilate and work with technical terminology. You must be able to establish sound working relationships with senior representatives from a wide range of industrial, commercial, training, professional and government organisations, as well as your colleagues in NCVQ.

Ideally, you should be aged between 22-28 and should be a graduate, with an interest in vocational education and training.

INTERESTED? Then send your CV, with a short covering letter saying how you meet the requirements to:

Ann Orr, NCVQ, 222 Euston Road, LONDON NW1 2BZ

by 4 December 1987.

TECHNICAL

WELSH

Applications are invited for the position:
ASSISTANT ESTATES OFFICER

£12,324 - £13,779

-based at Shire Hall, Mold.

The successful applicant will be expected to provide a complete estate management service to the Eastern area of the Northern Division, including acquisitions, disposals and negotiation of easements, loss of cropping, loss of business and surface damage claims resulting from pipelaying and land drainage works.

Applicants must hold an RICS or equivalent qualification and have a minimum of 3 years post-qualification experience.

Closing Date for Application: 27th November 1987.

Application forms are available from the Divisional Personnel Manager, Welsh Water, Penrhosgamedd, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2DJ.
Tel: Bangor (0248) 351144, Ext 198/223.

SENIOR BUILDING CONTROL ASSISTANT

Salary: £11070-£12882

Torbay Borough Council is currently involved in a number of major building projects, including a large multi-million £ shopping complex as well as an expanding programme of private sector development. In order to offer a high quality and efficient Building Control Service, we now require the expertise of an additional Senior Building Control Assistant capable of meeting the programme of work envisaged and to lead one of three teams in the Building Control Group. The post is initially offered on a three year contract renewable at the end of that period dependent on continuing work demands.

Applicants should be experienced in all aspects of building control work, qualified to full membership of the IBC, or equivalent, and have five years post qualification experience. In return, you can expect to gain valuable experience in dealing with a wide range of major works. In addition, you will have the opportunity of working and living in a most pleasant and attractive area of the South West. For an informal discussion, contact Mr Graham Challen on extension 329. Further details and application form from the Planning Department, Torbay Borough Council, Town Hall, Torquay, Devon TQ1 5DR. Telephone (0803) 296244 Extension 318.
Closing date 27th November 1987.



ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS FINANCIAL COMPTROLLER

Ambitious plans are in hand for the development of the Royal Academy. At its home in Burlington House, Piccadilly, the Academy - a private institution which receives no financial aid from any public source - has an international reputation for its exhibition programme, Schools of Art and other activities promoting the Fine Arts. The Academy has successful sponsorship and fund-raising programmes and its own trading company. The Friends of the Royal Academy is the largest such organisation in Europe.

Applications are invited for the post of Financial Comptroller.

The Financial Comptroller will be responsible to the Secretary of the Royal Academy for:
Budgeting and financial discipline in all departments
Staff management
Office administration and equipment
Security throughout Burlington House
The Financial Comptroller is a member of the Academy's executive board and relevant committees, and is actively involved in policy-making. The successful applicant is likely to have extensive financial experience and a lively interest in the Fine Arts.

The salary is negotiable.
The Royal Academy is an equal opportunities employer.
Please apply in confidence to The Secretary, Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1V 0HS. The closing date for the receipt of completed application forms is 1st December 1987.

ROWETT RESEARCH INSTITUTE Deputy Director

The Rowett Research Institute is an internationally renowned institute funded primarily by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland to undertake basic and strategic research in the nutritional sciences as they relate to animals and humans. Additional funding comes from the Research Councils, commercial sponsorship, collaborative research and contract work. A scientist with an international reputation in biological research, with recognised leadership qualities and proven management and organisational skills is required to assist the Director, Professor W.P.T. James, in promoting, managing and co-ordinating the research of the Institute and to deputise for him in his absence. The successful applicant would assume primary responsibility for scientific administration within a matrix management structure and would be supported in this role by four Heads of Division.

It is expected that the successful applicant would continue to undertake some research which would complement the current strengths within the Institute or provide additional support for developments in molecular biology, endocrinology and immunology. Salary range £24,765 to £28,215.
No contributory superannuation scheme. The Institute is an Equal Opportunities Employer.
Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from Professor W.P.T. James, Director of the Institute, Tel: 0224 712751, ext. 337.
Closing date 7th December 1987.

exciting greenfield opportunities at Sheffield City Polytechnic. Enthusiastic self-starters required to head two new units.

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION OFFICER

-REF. A/59/87 Poie/f £13152-£15567

To co-ordinate and develop management information in support of future planning to meet the changing demands of Higher Education.

CONTRACTS OFFICER

-REF. A/82/87 Poie £13152-£14301

To advise on research and consultancy leads for collaborative projects with industry. To co-ordinate their conversion into contracts and monitor their progress.

APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER DETAILS FOR THE ABOVE TWO POSTS FROM THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT, SHEFFIELD CITY POLYTECHNIC, HALFORDS HOUSE, FITZALLAN SQUARE, SHEFFIELD S1 2BB, TEL: 0114 229111 EXT. 295.
CLOSING DATE 3RD DECEMBER.

Sheffield City Polytechnic

SOVA DIRECTOR

Salary circa £23,000 (Under review)

SOVA is a successful and well resourced national organisation promoting community involvement in offender rehabilitation and crime prevention. We provide high quality projects, training and consultancy services to statutory agencies in the penal field who want to increase and improve their work with the community. Our Director is leaving in early 1988 and we are seeking another dynamic achiever of the highest calibre to spearhead the organisation. We want a self-motivated individual with commercial acumen and excellent communication and presentation skills. The successful candidate will be able to show a record of success in management positions at a senior level and have the personality, maturity, competence and energy to deal effectively with a wide variety of issues and organisations.

In addition to a competitive salary we offer to the right person the opportunity to further shape and drive forward an organisation which has proven a significant growth potential.

To express initial interest please contact Kate Mackay, Director, on 01 671 7833 or Gary Saunders, Chairman, on 01 583 5000 ext 3325 or write for further details to SOVA, Brixton Hill Place, London SW2 1HJ. Please mark all envelopes "PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE DIRECTOR".

SOVA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

FINANCIAL

Riverside Health Authority CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL ASSISTANT MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

Salary in the region of £13,500 depending on qualifications and experience.

A suitably experienced person, preferably with level 1 CACA, Stage 2 CMA or an AAT final, is required for the Assistant Management Accountant position which supports the Unit Finance Manager of Charing Cross Hospital and provides a full management information services to Hospital Managers.

As the work of the team involves preparation of annual estimates and regular variance analysis, the postholder should have twelve months relevant experience in management accounting.

Experience of Lotus 1-2-3 can be gained as tuition is available and the use of microcomputers is encouraged for all team members.

Day release facilities and financial assistance are available to assist in the completion of professional studies.

Other benefits include flexible, social club, squash and swimming pool facilities, contributory pension scheme, interest free season ticket loans, subsidised meals and canteen facilities. Removal Expenses and assistance with House Purchase may be available in certain circumstances.

Temporary single accommodation may be arranged.

Application forms and job description are available from: Unit Personnel Department, Charing Cross Hospital, Polson Palace Road, London W6 8RF. Tel: 01-748 2948 ext. 2997. Closing date: 27th November 1987.

TRAINEE ACCOUNTANT

Have you passed the Accounting Technician examination? Do you feel you have the ability and tenacity both to proceed with the CIPFA examinations and to contribute to the development of our financial and computer based systems?

Then why not join an Authority with a good track record in developing CIPFA accountants. A salary package will be available at short listing stage.

For further details and an application form, please contact Ken Barnes, Personnel Officer, Waverley Borough Council, The Bury, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1HR, or telephone Julie Apark, on Godalming 28173 (24 hr. answering service).

Closing date for applications - 4th December 1987.

Borough of Waverley

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION HOUSING ASSOCIATION LTD.

A large National Organisation which is a Registered Charity and manages a property portfolio in excess of £200 million, requires a

PROJECT ACCOUNTANT

Circa £17,000 plus car

This is an exceptional opportunity for a persuasive, experienced and qualified accountant to make visible contribution to the development of the organisation.

Located near High Wycombe and reporting to the Director of Finance you will undertake specific finance and accounting tasks, some in support of existing functions, but many of an innovative and developmental character.

Sound general accountancy skills together with commercial experience, a good knowledge of the development and implementation of computer systems, and the ability to lead and manage accounting projects, will be among the requirements sought in the successful candidate.

Attractive conditions of employment are offered, including a contributory pension scheme, car and private health insurance, as well as relocation costs in approved cases.

Please apply in writing with full career history, marking the envelope 'Private and Confidential' to:

Peter G.D. Mapp
Personnel & Training Manager
The Royal British Legion Housing Association Ltd
PO Box 32, Penn, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP10 6JF.

The closing date for applications is Friday 27 November 1987. The RBLHA is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

'Looking for a Challenge?'

Delyn Borough Council need a Young, Creative, CIPFA Qualified Person as its:

CHIEF MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

Salary PO 10-13

£15,966 to £17,151

We are situated in picturesque North Wales on the banks of the Dee Estuary - convenient for the coast, Snowdonia and the historic City of Chester.

Further details and application forms are available from the Personnel and Management Services Officer, Delyn House, Chapel Street, Flint, Chwyd CH6 5SD (Tel: 0326 62345 ext. 328) and should be returned no later than

Friday 27th Nov. 87

Canvassing Disqualifies

To be responsible for developing the Accounting and Audit functions as a service to managers, to identify resources to help the Council achieve its strategy - "Delyn into the Nineties".

- MORE JOBS
- DECENT HOMES
- CLEAN AND PLEASANT ENVIRONMENT
- MORE LEISURE FACILITIES
- MORE SERVICES FOR RURAL AREAS
- BUSINESS LIKE APPROACH IN RUNNING COUNCIL SERVICES.

Discover Delyn

The expanding and progressive Construction Division at Slough College of Higher Education has the following staff vacancies at L2/S1 Level:

BUILDING SURVEYOR and a QUANTITY SURVEYOR

Applicants should be corporate or graduate members of an appropriate institution and preferably with recent industrial experience. Teaching experience is not essential but enthusiasm and ambition are a requirement, and the successful candidate will be encouraged to maintain links with local industry.

Salary scale L2: £8904 - £13965

(pay award pending)

Salary Scale S1: £12924 - £16182

(pay award pending)

inclusive of local allowance

Appointment will commence 1st January, 1988 or as soon as possible thereafter.

For an informal discussion, please call, The Head of Division, Peter MacKenzie, or write for further details to:

The Staffing Officer
Slough College of Higher Education
Wellington Street, Slough, Berks. SL1 1YG.
Telephone: Slough (0753) 34585

Slough College

UEA NORWICH ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN Grade 5

Applications are invited for this post in the Electronic Systems Engineering Section of the School of Information Systems.

The successful candidate would be expected to assist in the development, construction, testing and maintenance of both analogue and digital equipment, to contribute to the organisation and provide support for the teaching and research programme. The sector has fully equipped

modern laboratories including IBM type and Apple Macintosh personal work stations, as well as 88000-based microprocessor and transport development systems. The applicant will be expected to have practical experience and electronics qualifications (BTEC, Advanced City and Guilds or Higher TEC equivalent) in modern analogue and digital electronics. Some software experience, including knowledge of networks, and the IBM operating system would be an advantage. Salary will be in the range £1650-£2085 per annum and the appointment is for two years. Further information about the post is available upon request.

Applications in writing, giving full details of experience, qualifications and the names of two referees who can be easily contacted, should be sent to the Chief Technician, School of Information Systems, University of East Anglia, Norwich NR4 7TJ, by Friday, December 4th, 1987.

UEA Norwich

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Involves project preparation and management, site development and office planning, maintaining property records, assessing and reporting building requirements, also searches for new property. Typically requires liaison with property services agencies, commercial Estate Agents, U.S. Air Force and local planning authorities. Minimum 6 years relative experience or combination of professional qualifications and experience. £14,215. PA. Life assurance and pension scheme.

For further details please call answerphone 01-409 4181.

To Advertise in Public Appointments Telephone

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01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

CORPORATE FINANCE
LEADING CITY FIRM
£18-£25,000

Our client, a well established, dynamic practice is seeking solicitors or barristers with up to 5 years experience for its expanding corporate finance department. Good academic credentials, determination and strong interpersonal skills are essential in this demanding environment. Successful candidates will be involved in a variety of work to include: M & A; floatations; takeovers; venture capital and general corporate advice.

BANKING

We are currently looking for qualified lawyers with excellent academic credentials and experience of domestic corporate finance transactions to develop their careers in that field.

Opportunities exist with high profile U.S. and European Investment Banks, U.K. Merchant Banks and Stockbrokers to join advisory teams at all levels in the areas of M & A; listings; issues; business development and client liaison.

For details of these and other vacancies, please contact John Cullen.

COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY
COMMERCIAL ADVISER
c.£18,000

An ambitious lawyer with up to 3 years experience is sought by our client, a progressive information technology company, to join a small dynamic team. The candidate, possessing strong interpersonal skills, must have sound commercial experience and be willing to undertake a range of commercial matters, including non-legal where required. Hard work and commitment will be rewarded with a competitive salary.

COMPLIANCE OFFICER

To £35,000 + Bens

Our client, a major US financial services conglomerate, is seeking a high-calibre Solicitor to take charge of a small team responsible for establishing compliance procedures under the Financial Services Act. Duties will include monitoring of systems, implementation of procedural changes, and provision of general legal advice. The ideal candidate will be aged late 20s/early 30s, with at least 5 years previous financial services experience would be a distinct advantage.

For details of these and other positions, please contact Lisa Wilson, Tim Knight or Robert Drury.

PROPERTY
LAWYERS
EC4
From £18,500-£25,000
+ Usual Benefits

Our client is an eleven partner City based specialist property practice which acts for a wide range of institutional and development clients.

Its six partner strong property team now has an additional requirement for 2 young lawyers to assist with its fast expanding quality caseload.

Applicants should be either newly qualified or with up to 3 years relevant experience, gained within a London practice or recognised provincial firm. The ability to deal with clients at a senior level is essential.

Successful candidates will become involved in the full range of commercial property transactions to include substantial development and funding projects.

Remuneration is exceptionally competitive and prospects are excellent for motivated candidates.

For further details of these opportunities, please contact Judith Farness, in the strictest confidence.

PRIVATE PRACTICE
PERSONAL INJURY
LITIGATOR

This respected firm in WC2 is seeking to recruit lawyers to undertake a substantial personal injury workload. Experienced Solicitors or recently qualified candidates with an interest in this area of the law can expect excellent prospects and remuneration.

COMPANY COMMERCIAL

Continued expansion in the Commercial department of this large EC2 firm has created an excellent opportunity for a young lawyer seeking to gain excellent experience in a range of commercial matters. Ideally with a financial background in Articles or post admission, applicants will be bright, ambitious and keen to take on early responsibility for quality work. Highly competitive salary.

EMPLOYMENT LAW

A leading City firm in EC4 with strong international connections requires a young, experienced lawyer to work with the litigation and commercial departments on advisory and contentious aspects of employment and Labour Law. Excellent salary and benefits are available.

For details of these and other vacancies, please contact Lucy Hartley.

MILTON KEYNES OFFICE

COMMERCIAL
£Neg

An ambitious recently qualified Solicitor is required by this large practice in Peterborough to augment their embryonic department. An excellent opportunity to specialise in acquisitions and disposals and related Companies Act work.

LITIGATION

£Excell

A progressive medium sized practice with offices on the Cambs/Beds borders needs a Solicitor with 2 years + PQE to head Civil Litigation at an office 1 hour from London. The candidate appointed will inherit an orderly caseload. Genuine partnership possibilities.

Please contact Miranda Whitmore for details of these vacancies or for a confidential discussion of your career objectives on (0908) 690470 (24 hours).

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To £20,000 + benefits

Due to rapid expansion a leading importing and distribution company situated only 45 minutes from London requires a Solicitor with two years + PQE to assist the Company Solicitor in providing a range of Legal and Commercial advice to the Group and assume responsibility for some Commercial Conveyancing.

ARTICLES

Excellent positions are available now for recently successful finalists. Reputable practices in North Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire offer well structured training and above average salaries.

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Denise
Kingsmill
& Co
Solicitors

We are a young firm, getting bigger and better every day. We need experience, self-generating lawyers to come and help build the expansion and benefit from it. We conduct high profile litigation in the employment, personal injury and medical negligence areas. We want committed, hard working people who like the idea of being in a new firm where their contribution really counts.

The prospects for successful applicants are excellent, with genuine partnership potential for lawyers of truly high calibre, with performance-related remuneration.

If you have the qualities to take on these challenges, please write to Denise Kingsmill, enclosing CV to:

Denise Kingsmill & Co
44 Bedford Row
London
WC1R 4LL

or telephone 01-881 2908

2 Lawyers

to join the UK's largest company
Excellent salary Non-contributory pension +
other benefits

BP Exploration is responsible for the BP Group's UK offshore and onshore interests in oil and gas exploration, development and production. The Group has major interests in oil and gas fields in the North Sea, is the operator of the Sullom Voe Terminal in the Shetland Islands and of 3 UK oil and gas pipeline systems. BP now has immediate vacancies for 2 lawyers in its Aberdeen office.

The roles are challenging and exciting and will involve a wide range of commercial work including litigation, conveyancing, inter-company agreements, joint venture advice and operational problems. For the right individuals, there is scope for further career development within the BP Group.

Candidates should be solicitors or barristers qualified in Scots or English law with one to five years post qualification experience and aged, preferably, in their mid/late 20s.

Competitive remuneration packages are offered commensurate with age and experience. Relocation assistance will be provided where appropriate.

Please write or telephone for an application form quoting ref. A/3 to Mr D. S. Chitty. Tel: Aberdeen 834355. BP Petroleum Development, Farburn Industrial Estate, Dyce, Aberdeen AB2 0PB.

BP is an equal opportunity employer.



The British Petroleum Company p.l.c.

Head of Regional
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With more than 6 million members, the AA is the world's largest motoring organisation. The wide range of services that we offer to motorists includes the provision of free legal advice, free legal representation and assistance with claims recovery. And we are now looking for a suitably experienced individual to control and co-ordinate the provision of such services for all of our members in the North of England.

Responsible for the successful management of our Regional Legal Unit, based in Cheadle Hulme, you will be expected to ensure that all cases are dealt with to the satisfaction of members and within agreed procedural guidelines. To achieve your objectives, you will need to organise and motivate the Unit's staff as well as develop and maintain

effective contacts with a wide range of external organisations.

The position calls for an in-depth knowledge of all legislation relating to the motorist and it is anticipated that you will either have 10 years' directly relevant experience, or 5 years' such experience supported by a law degree, or 5 years' experience gained as a Legal Executive, Solicitor or Barrister. Whichever your background, you will need to be an accomplished manager of people with highly developed communication skills.

In addition to a salary of up to £15K, we can offer a full package of 'large company' benefits. For further details and an application form telephone Basingstoke (0256) 493071, or send a full CV to The Manager, Management Recruitment at the address below.



THE AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION, FANUM HOUSE, BASINGSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE RG21 2EA.

Eastbourne
Partner
Designate
Probate/Trust/Tax

We have been asked by a respected and forward thinking firm in Eastbourne to introduce a suitably qualified, and experienced Solicitor to assist in this expanding aspect of their practice.

The prospects and environment are excellent and will suit those with up to 5 years experience.

Applicants are asked to contact us at the address shown below. Strictest confidence is assured.

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England
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Fax 01-491 7459

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to work under minimal
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established Solicitors practice.

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THE COLLEGE OF LAW
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Applications are invited from solicitors for a post of lecturer. This post is in London but there are also vacancies at the College at Guildford.

The salary will be within the scale £15,925 - £23,600 p.a. (which includes a London allowance of £2,000 with the entry point depending on qualifications and experience. Normal annual increments are £300).

Apply with full personnel, professional and academic details and the names of two referees to the Principal, The College of Law, 2 Beames Buildings, Chancery Lane, London EC4A 3DF (Tel: 01-242 3757), from whom further details may be obtained.

ENFIELD MAGISTRATES' COURTS COMMITTEE
ENFIELD PETTY SESSIONS AREA
PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CC/PAD 8-12 (Grading Under Review)
£11,292-£12,792 p.a. plus £738 p.a. London Weighting
(National Pay Award Pending)

Applications are invited for the above post which will become vacant at the beginning of 1988 and which is based at the Tottenham Magistrates' Court, Lordship Lane, London N17. The person appointed will be required to assist the Clerk to the Magistrates' Courts Committee with the administration of the Committee and, as such, should preferably have a good knowledge of committee procedure. The postholder will also deal with a wide range of other matters including Personnel (appointments, terms and conditions of service, training, etc.), the provision and maintenance of Courtroom accommodation, and monitoring of the Committee's budget. The ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, is considered essential.

The commencing salary will be determined according to qualification and experience. The post is superannuable. Relocation expenses may be paid.

Application forms may be obtained by telephoning (01) 808 5411, Ext. 226 and asking for Miss Carey. The closing date for applications is 30th November, 1987.

TECHNICAL

University of Bradford

COMPUTER OFFICERS - 2 POSTS

Applications are invited from graduates or equivalent for the following posts which provide opportunities to contribute to the University's active research programme as well as supporting undergraduate and postgraduate teaching activities.

ACADEMIC AREA OF COMPUTING (Ref. C0/C1/T) Support to academic staff engaged in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and research in an active and expanding area of the University. The post involves maintenance and development of simulation software on mainframe, mini and microcomputer systems. Specific requirements are a degree level qualification in computing and/or extensive programming experience.

COMPUTER CENTRE (Ref. C0/C2/T)

The Centre provides facilities for research and teaching within the University based on two CDC Cyber mainframes, a network of Apollo Domains and Microcomputer facilities. Access to other hosts both on an off campus is provided by a comprehensive X25 based Local Area Network linked to the National Network, JANET. The person appointed will be required to support statistical software on mainframe and microcomputers and should, therefore, have experience in this area. An interest in other micro-based software would also be an advantage.

Appointments will either be to Grade 1 of the academic related scales, currently £8,185 to £11,015 p.a. (£8,575 - £11,880 w/e 1.3.88) or Grade 2 currently £7,460 to £10,280 p.a. (£7,850 - £10,660 w/e 1.3.88) depending on qualifications and experience.

Application forms are available by either writing to or telephoning the Personnel Office, University of Bradford, West Yorkshire BD7 1DP. Tel: 0274 733466, Ext. 224/252/513. An equal opportunity employer.

GREENWOODS

We are seeking experienced Assistant Solicitors to handle a high volume of personal injury litigation on behalf of insurance company clients.

Please telephone or write with C.V. to:

Tom Parsons,
20 Bedford Square,
London WC1B 3HL.
Tel: 01 323 4632

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SOLICITOROR
LEGAL
EXECUTIVE

Required for
LITIGATION &
CONVEYANCING

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Cornwall TR1 2LS

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REGISTER

A leading London law firm is seeking a regular capacity clerk for its busy conveyancing department. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the department and will be expected to handle a high volume of work. The post is full time and offers excellent career prospects. The successful candidate will be expected to handle a high volume of work. The post is full time and offers excellent career prospects.

Why not take the challenge of a job that will give you the opportunity to work for a leading law firm in the City and would be happy to discuss this with you in person.

For an appointment please contact us on 01 523 2214 for an appointment.

OSG Recruitment Consultants, 37/39 Eastcheap, London, EC3M 1DT.

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Do you believe as we do, that our profession offers the best service to the house buying public?

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We are just 1 year old but already have 6 branches and 65 staff. If you would like to join our expansion programme, are enthusiastic, young and enjoy conveyancing then contact me.

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Tel 0322-75315

SALARY UP
TO £20,000

Young fast-expanding top firm of West End solicitors urgently require a Legal Executive or recently qualified solicitor to play a prominent role in their Domestic Conveyancing Department.

This is an excellent opportunity to work in friendly surroundings where hard work coupled with a sense of humour is rewarded with a top salary.

For further details telephone Jeanette Costa on 01 434 4011 or send a CV to:

Barnett Alexander Chart
34/35 Dean Street
LONDON W1V 5AP

SENIOR
BARRISTERS' CLERK

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All enquiries will be treated in strict confidence.

Apply in writing by 30th November 1987 to the Head of Chambers:

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Senior
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01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

SOLICITORS

HONG KONG

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COMPANY AND COMMERCIAL

This position calls for a solicitor with up to 3 years qualified experience in the corporate field.

CONSTRUCTION LITIGATION

Previous experience in construction litigation is an essential requirement, and it is unlikely that anyone less than 2 years qualified will have the breadth of experience to fill this position successfully.

Applications should be made with a full CV:-

In London to:

Michael Charteris-Black,
14 Dominion Street,
London EC2M 2RJ.

In Hong Kong to:

Stephen Schofield,
2408 Connaught Centre,
Connaught Road Central,
Hong Kong.

SIMMONS & SIMMONS

For a World of Opportunities, see page 43



Denton Hall Burgin & Warrens

DH BW

SOLICITOR

c £21,000 p.a. + Car + Mortgage

Sun Life of Canada, one of the world's largest life assurance companies, is seeking an additional solicitor to join the Legal Department of its British Headquarters office.

Applicants should ideally be aged between 25 and 30 with some experience in commercial conveyancing and an interest in financial services. The successful candidate will be involved in all legal aspects of the Company's business, working closely with the Vice-President and Chief Legal Adviser and his Assistant. Personal attributes will be as important as qualifications.

The British Headquarters of Sun Life of Canada recently moved to prestigious, purpose-built offices in Basingstoke, Hampshire and relocation assistance will be available, if necessary.

Our excellent fringe benefits include a Company car, subsidized staff mortgage scheme, non-contributory pension scheme and a free lunch facility.

If you are interested, please send your career details to:-

Mrs Susan Hanington,
Employment Adviser,
Sun Life of Canada,
Basing View,
Basingstoke,
Hampshire.
RG21 2DZ



Telephone: 0256 841414 Ext. 2058

Major UK Private Group

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Our Ideal Candidate: A well qualified Solicitor • Successful track record as a professional operating within a major property company or within a respected practice • Responsible for legal and corporate affairs • Proven legal and taxation experience in property development, construction and corporate acquisitions • Able to plan, present and negotiate funding for complex development schemes involving joint-venture partners • Strong negotiator, executive and team leader • Age preference: early 30's to late 40's.

Remuneration Package: An excellent basic salary + bonus + generous pension + life assurance, FHL + healthcare + quality executive car + a number of other fringe benefits befitting the seniority of this appointment.

Act now: In complete confidence, telephone or write to the Company's Adviser John Gelling MA, MBA (Director) on: 01-398 2051 (10 lines). Merton Associates (Consultants) Limited, Merton House, 70 Grafton Way, London W1P 5LE.

McKENNA & Co Corporate Tax Lawyer

We are now looking for a solicitor with two to four years' experience in corporate tax law to join us within this expanding part of the firm. The department advises clients on the domestic and international tax aspects of transactions, together with other related tax issues, and you can expect to work closely with other departments within the firm.

This is an ideal opportunity to gain broadbased commercial experience within a demanding and rewarding environment. Career prospects for the right person are excellent.

A highly competitive salary and benefits are offered.

Please apply with full curriculum vitae to:
Bernadette Willoughby, McKenna & Co., Inveresk House,
1 Aldwych, London WC2R 0HF

LONDON • BAHRAIN • HONG KONG • SINGAPORE • TOKYO

Senior Commercial Lawyer

Philips Electronics require a Senior Lawyer to be responsible for advice to all the Philips Companies in the Cambridge area.

These companies operate in the professional and industrial markets (and related financial fields) and they include the centre for the Philips worldwide radio communication systems activity.

The successful applicant will be expected to contribute from a legal standpoint to Management decision-making across a broad variety of business issues and in particular, will become involved in the interesting and exciting developments in Pan European Co-operation in the regulation of Telecommunications.

Applicants should be self motivating and capable of working on their own initiative. The position, based in Cambridge, has a reporting line to the Head of the Legal Department in London. Some overseas travel inside and outside Europe will be required.

An attractive salary and benefits package will be offered and this will include an executive car and private health insurance.

Please send full details of qualifications and experience to Mrs M.D. Rush, Central Personnel Department, Philips Electronic and Associated Industries Ltd, Arundel Great Court, 8 Arundel Street, London WC2R 3DT.



PHILIPS

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- the administration of all the business of the council of the Society and the strategy Committee;
- the introduction of electronic transmission of council and committee papers;
- the administration of the procedures for appointing members to all committees;
- overall responsibility for constitutional matters affecting the Society.

If you are an experienced lawyer, have also demonstrated your competence in committee administration and managing at a senior level and have utilized automated office systems to increase efficiency, then we would like to hear from you.

In return, we offer a salary around £25,000 plus all the benefits to be expected of a large organisation.

Send your CV, detailing responsibilities you have held and quoting achievements in the areas specified to Roger Woodley, Personnel Controller, The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2H 1PL.

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At the AA, we're far more than just the world's largest motoring organisation. Indeed, we're involved in a whole range of other activities, including travel, publishing and insurance and this could be your opportunity to become involved with our expansion. We have vacancies for three Solicitors/Lawyers within our Consumer Legal Service.

Based in our Head Office in Basingstoke, you will be responsible for the provision of legal advice and assistance to our clients, covering consumer and employment disputes. In addition, you will be negotiating on behalf of clients in the above areas, through to instructing outside Solicitors where

proceedings have to be issued.

If you are a qualified Solicitor/Barrister, with experience gained in private practice or commerce, we can offer you a competitive salary from £15,500 according to experience - plus the AA's outstanding package of benefits. You will also receive an additional £1,750 for providing a 24 hour helpline service, working from home on a roster basis.

So, if you're interested, please write with full CV to the Personnel Department at the address below or telephone (0256) 492971 for an application form, quoting reference 8459.

Legal Advisors

£15,500 p.a.
+£1,750 p.a. Helpline Allowance
Full Relocation Assistance



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Trust Administrator BERMUDA

Apply to: Spence & Kemp, one of the largest law firms in Bermuda, requires an experienced Trust Administrator in its small but busy Trust Department.

Reporting directly to the head of the Department, you will be responsible for the day-to-day management of trusts, liaising with the firm's established trust clients, assisting in establishing and maintaining operational procedures, and maintaining accurate records. This responsible position, which

offers an interesting challenge for the right individual, requires at least five years' experience in trust administration and trust-related work including trust accounting. Previous working experience with computerized trust systems is essential, and some knowledge of corporate administration would be an asset.

An excellent commensurate salary and other appropriate benefits are offered. Please send full cv, which will be forwarded to Bermuda, quoting Ref: R2222/T.



PA Advertising

Hyde Park House, 80a Kensington, London SW1X 7LE.
Tel: 01-225 0200 Telex: 2784

CONVEYANCER City Based £'s negotiable

We are looking for a young and energetic Conveyancer/Solicitor or experienced Legal Executive who will be handling a varied and interesting caseload.

An attractive salary package is offered according to age and experience.

To discuss your future with us contact:

Charles Ashley Bach
on 01-638 9271
or write to him at:

DRUCES & ATTLEE

Solihull House, London Wall, London EC2M 8PS

CHAMBERS VACANCY

Established and busy set of Chambers has a vacancy for a barrister of at least 5 years call.

Please apply in strict confidence to the Head of Chambers

MR BRUCE CAULFIELD
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MANCHESTER
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Channel Islands LAWYER

Large Property Company with extensive assets in the United Kingdom requires a Lawyer to administer its acquisitions disposals and the ongoing conveyancing aspects of a large and varied investment property portfolio.

The ideal candidate will be a U.K. lawyer who is widely experienced in the above and who can institute, administer and control litigation which arises in the normal course of business. This is a senior position with excellent long term prospects and an attractive salary.

Please reply in the strictest confidence enclosing a full c.v. and details of remuneration package sought, to:

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P.O. Box 484, Virginia Street, London E1.

01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

CITY/WEST END

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PARTNER

There is the definite prospect of early partnership with an eminent City practice for a solicitor of high calibre with an enthusiastic and committed approach. He or she must have an academic background in science to degree level, together with around six years' experience in the field of intellectual property. An excellent salary package is available.

CONVEYANCING TO £30K

A solicitor with up to five years' relevant experience in both residential and commercial conveyancing is sought by this progressive central London firm to undertake a mixed caseload on behalf of both corporate and private clients.

LITIGATION TO £25K

As a result of expansion in its thriving commercial litigation department, a medium-sized central London practice has an urgent need for an ambitious young litigator with ability and drive.

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL TO £28K

An alert and highly motivated solicitor with about two years' PQE is required by this burgeoning City practice to handle a varied caseload on behalf of private and public companies. The appointee will have responsibility for individual cases as well as working as part of a team on larger matters.

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TO £23K

We are instructed by a well known City firm to select and introduce a recently admitted solicitor to handle high quality residential conveyancing in its property department.

OUT OF LONDON

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE £ EXCEL

Ambitious newly or recently qualified solicitors are sought for the expanding residential and commercial conveyancing departments of this highly regarded firm. This is an excellent opportunity to deal with quality work in a firm with a solid reputation and genuine prospects. Salary will be comparable to that in the City/West End.

BEDFORDSHIRE c.£25K

This practice seeks a solicitor with good general experience, with a bias towards contentious matters, to deal mainly with litigation but with an opportunity to handle some commercial and residential conveyancing.

ESSEX TO £25K + CAR

This is a medium-sized coastal firm that seeks an experienced solicitor of high calibre to handle conveyancing. The caseload is mainly residential with some light commercial. There is the prospect of early partnership for the ambitious candidate.

SUFFOLK c.£17K + CAR

An experienced solicitor is required by this small provincial practice to take responsibility for the firm's non-contentious work, including mixed conveyancing, probate and trusts. Located in an expanding market town, the successful candidate will be willing to become involved in the community and be looking for an early partnership.

HERTFORDSHIRE TO £14K

A newly or recently qualified solicitor is sought by this large and well-established firm for its litigation department. A wide variety of work is available, including criminal, in a practice that offers excellent experience and prospects for able candidates.

WEST MIDLANDS TO £25K

Our client, a prestigious practice in the West Midlands, requires an additional Intellectual Property Lawyer. An interest in engineering, or a science 'A' level would be advantageous. An ideal candidate will be 3 years post qualified, but newly qualified solicitors with an interest in this field should not be discouraged from coming forward. The workload includes copyright, passing off actions, computer contract drafting and related matters.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE c.£12 - 15K

A criminal law specialist is sought by a medium sized practice with a large, busy criminal department. An interesting workload is offered, covering the spectrum of criminal matters. In addition, applications are sought from general litigators willing to assume responsibility for a branch office and who seek some flexibility of caseload.

WARWICKSHIRE TO £15K

An Assistant Solicitor who enjoys team membership will find a congenial environment in this lively practice. A growing debt recovery department needs an additional member to help service and develop this expanding department. The right candidate will command a generous salary.

DEVON £ GENEROUS

A major practice in an historic town has instructed us to find a capable and commercially aware solicitor who has the acumen to develop non-contentious business. The successful applicant will head the probate/financial services department, responsible for clients' investments, pensions, taxation and all related matters.

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If you would like to discuss the matter informally please telephone Mr G.B. Atkinson, Deputy Clerk to the Justices (Legal) on 061 4773020.

Applications in writing should be addressed to R.H. Lawrence Esq., Clerk to the Magistrates Courts Committee, The Court House, Warren St., Stockport SK1 1UE.

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Candidates should have up to two years' post-qualification experience, either in industry or in private practice, which will have included some experience in intellectual property. A commercial outlook is essential, and an interest in science would be highly relevant. Intellectual property rights are an extremely important aspect of the Company's high technology business. The successful candidate will therefore play a crucial role within the legal department, holding a position of increasing authority and responsibility. An attractive starting salary is offered, plus usual company benefits, including a company car.

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BOX K04

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Mallesons Stephen Jaques, one of Australia's largest law firms with offices in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Canberra, London and New York are seeking experienced lawyers for all departments in our Australian offices including Corporate, Banking & Finance, Commercial Litigation, Property, Tax and Intellectual Property. Our practice is high quality and frequently international. Applicants should have had at least two years post graduate experience with a City firm but those with a different background could also apply. Experienced applicants should not be inhibited by the fact that they are already on a partnership track in their present employment (or indeed may be partners already). The opportunities for advancement based on performance are unlimited.

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Those interested should telephone our London Senior Partner, Rick Ladbury on 01 606 2072 or write to him with a curriculum vitae to:

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If you are interested please send a comprehensive CV, stating present salary, to Personnel Department, Confederation of British Industry, Centre Point, 103 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DU.

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For further information please contact Steven Grubb on 01-831 2000, or write to him at The Legal Division, Michael Page Partnership,

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As part of the expansion of our internal professional support services we are looking for another person to play a significant role in the development of our Information Bank.

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Stephenson Harwood

Please send a detailed CV to Denis Reed at Stephenson Harwood, One St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8SH.

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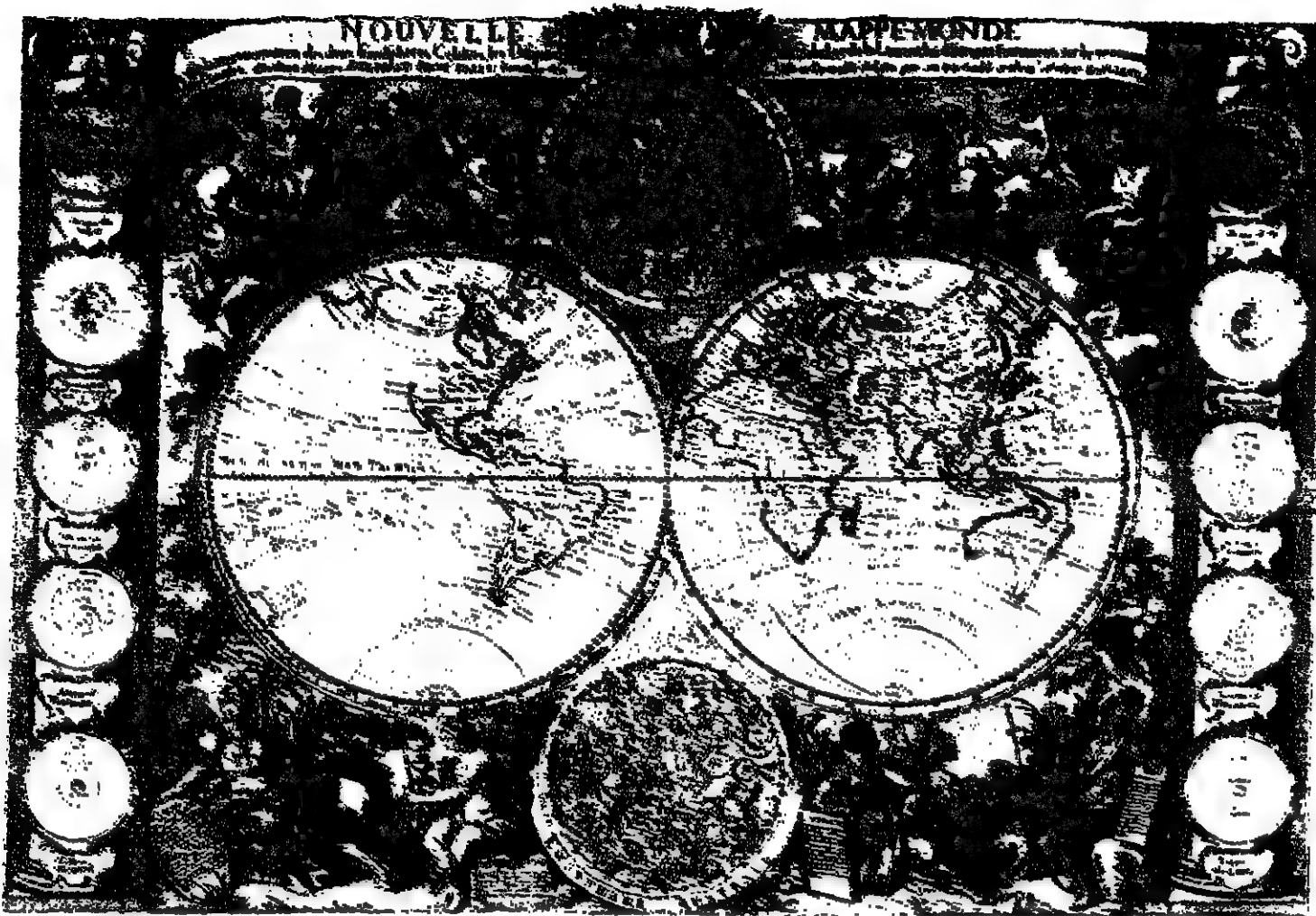
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The world of DHBW, however, does contain a number of distinguishing features. To start with, we're internationally located, and internationally orientated. This offers our staff opportunities to extend their horizons by working at major DHBW offices in other parts of the world. Thus we actively encourage an outward-looking approach. Again, the firm's partners encourage a spirit of commercial enterprise, perhaps even more vital today than in the days of the great trading houses.

Like many, the practice embraces a variety of specialisations. Unlike most, ours are reaching out to embrace such new worlds as infrastructure privatisation, and space and telecommunications law. Our feet are firmly on the ground, however, when it comes to property planning and development (our Planning Group is one of the largest in the country). And our firm is structured in such a way that DHBW lawyers, whatever their particular discipline, can contribute to our specialist groupings - and thus to an imaginative, fast and fertile response to clients operating in a variety of areas, at home and abroad.

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This job embraces all aspects of satellite systems. You will be negotiating with national and international regulatory authorities and working with governmental and European bodies to enforce telecommunications legislation.

You will also be advising clients on advanced radio paging systems and computerised recording for pay TV, including the negotiation of contracts throughout Europe.

You could join our team specialising in this exciting area if you have at least three years' experience (not necessarily in telecommunications).

Company Lawyers

Our corporate finance practice is developing fast. To match this growth we need a lawyer with one to two years' experience in general company law, or a lawyer with substantial Yellow Book and Blue Book experience who can advise on new issues, mergers, acquisitions and flotations in relation to Stock Exchange listed companies.

Commercial Lawyers

We need two solicitors with one to two years' experience of quality commercial work who are looking for increased involvement and responsibility.

One covers the buying and selling of companies, oil and gas work, joint ventures, local government financing and some banking.

The other centres on international business dealing. You will be advising major UK companies and overseas corporations establishing business interests in the UK.

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Your previous tax experience should enable you to provide a comprehensive tax planning consultancy service for public and private companies in the UK, and international corporations. You'll need to liaise extensively with our overseas offices.

Employment and Immigration Lawyer

The growth of our Employment and Immigration Group has been rapid, fuelled by international client needs. The work, both contentious and non-contentious, is varied, both in the issues dealt with, and the range of clients served.

We hope you will have had experience of either employment or immigration work, but high quality candidates without this experience could be considered.

Property Development Lawyer

Our Development Group is involved in the country's largest developments including the building of new townships and town centre redevelopment. Your work will include land acquisition contracts, planning law, construction contracts, taxation and finance. You should have up to three years' experience of commercial conveyancing.

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We have a satellite office in one of the country's fastest developing areas - London's Docklands. As well as serving corporate clients, we are handling major property developments which are transforming the area into the commercial, financial and residential centre of the future.

You need up to eighteen months' experience in real property. Initially your job will centre on residential conveyancing, but you will have the opportunity to develop experience in other areas of property work - both at the Docklands office and in the main London practice.

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You will be advising contractors, developers and professional people involved in the construction industry - not just in the ever growing city of Hong Kong but throughout the region too.

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You should have up to two years' high quality commercial experience. Although you will be involved in general commercial work, the emphasis will be towards financing and joint ventures. You will be advising a wide range of international and local clients, particularly American, and you should be an expatriate or Cantonese speaking.



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OLYMPIC GAMES

Pyongyang plays a waiting game in political countdown

Seoul
The countdown to the 1988 Olympic Games - scheduled to start here 10 months from today - enters a phase of complex danger to their stability with the presidential election just being held in North Korea, the mouse trying to frighten the elephant, attentively awaits its neighbour's voting.

In the past two weeks the North Koreans have radically shifted the ground from which they intend to continue harassing the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the Seoul organizers.

The Pyongyang regime has abandoned all pretence of seeking a partial co-hosting - which it probably never realistically wanted anyway, and therefore never accepted the IOC's final proposals in the summer - and is now pressing for a joint North-South team. It intends to negotiate, allegedly, with a new South Korean government following what it optimistically hopes will be the defeat of Chun Doo Hwan's military party.

A joint team - to which the present Seoul organizing committee would, of course, never agree - would be an ideal solution to North Korea's ideological, provocative demand made against the threat of a boycott: a threat by no means likely to find sympathy among the important fellow Socialist nations.

Were a joint North-South team to take part, this would eliminate the flag and the anthem of the South (as was the case when the two Germanys competed as a combined team at the 1956, 1960 and 1964 Olympics). What would thus be achieved would not be some agreeable sporting fraternization, but some camouflage of any global television coverage of the status symbols of a hugely successful southern half of the peninsula.

Juan Antonio Samaranch, the IOC president, arrived here yesterday for further discussions en route to Canton for the Chinese National Games. While privately acknowledging that the IOC's concession towards co-hosting has failed, he makes a continued gesture to keeping

COMMENTARY

David Miller

Chief Sports Correspondent

the door open when he says 'if North Korea and South Korea can reach agreement, we are always here and happy to help.'

However, the prospect for either of the South Korean opposition candidates - Kim Dae Jung, for so long a victim of military repression, or Kim Young Sam - seems reduced so long as neither of them will stand down. Roh Tae Woo, General Hwan's nominated successor and a strong man of

creed by the Chinese, not to interfere either with the current election or the Games. The message was passed when Li Guo-Mo, the North Korean prime minister, made his first foreign trip to Peking, a week following the visit of the appropriately named Michael Arnacost, the United States Under Secretary, to discuss the Gulf war arms supply and, coincidentally, the Korean peninsula's on-going friction.

North Koreans were reassured by Premier Zhao Ziyang of China's continuing allegiance to North Korea's attempts to unify the Korean people. The North is unnerved by regular reports that the Socialist countries, including China, the Soviet Union and East Germany, will attend the South's games.

The IOC has so far had some 80 acceptances from national Olympic committees to the invitation for next autumn. But none from the Socialist bloc. This is predictable. The deadline is January 17, and the Socialist countries are considered by experienced observers to be minimising the time available for protest against their likely acceptance.

Although the IOC voted, in the aftermath of the Los Angeles boycott, to take sanctions against countries participating in future boycotts - withdrawing after accepting the invitation - it knows it is important to discipline the major countries. The only National Olympic Committees who might suffer effective sanctions are, say, Third World members who could lose solidarity fund support.

It is not considered here that an opposition party, if elected, would do anything to diminish the national effort to make the Games a huge success. As Samaranch said yesterday: 'I believed that the left, centre and right of the political parties are all equally keen for Seoul to stage a successful Games.'

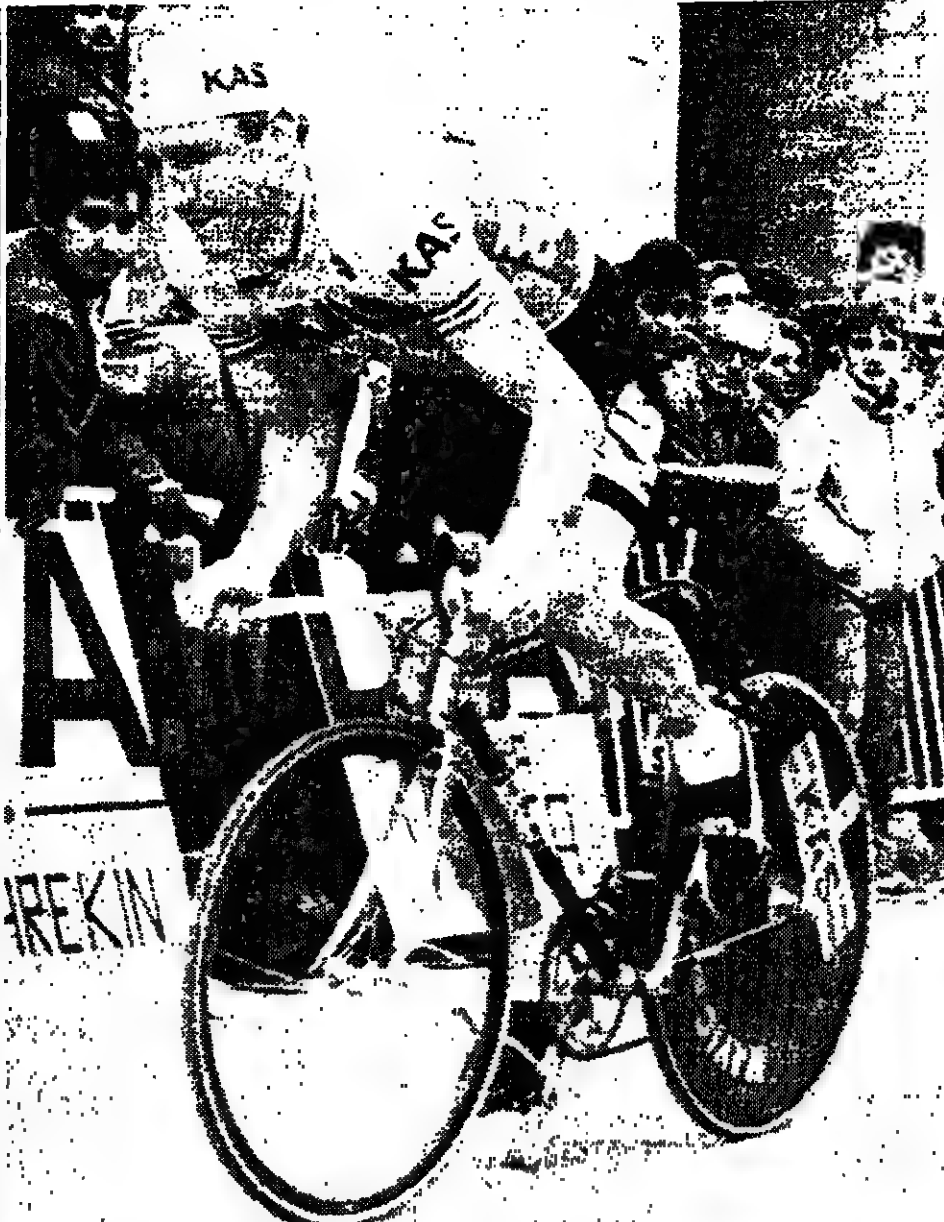
SEOUL: The IOC president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, is on a four-day visit here to check preparations for the 1988 Olympics (AP reports).

Samaranch: happy to help

both the military regime and Seoul's successful Olympic bid, is thought to be finding increasing popular support. An opposition government would, of course, result in changes in personnel among the Games' organizing committee.

The United States, which had 150,000 killed and wounded in the Korean War, still has 40,000 troops in the South, and the Panmunjom checkpoint, and will have two aircraft carriers stationed off Seoul during the Games as a warning against possible North Korean terrorism.

Last week the United States issued a private warning to Pyongyang, delivered dis-



Latest disc: Sean Kelly champions the new wheel during a time trial on the Basque Tour

Furore over disc wheels

By Peter Bryan

The normally conservative Road Time Trials Council (RTTC) has caused a furore among racing cyclists with its decision to advocate the use of disc wheels next season.

The disc wheel has no spokes and the area within the rim is filled by a plate made from carbon fibre or similar material, which reduces wind turbulence.

There is a popular - virtually de rigueur - on the track, where the advantage in pursuit and time trial events is reflected by faster times. One estimate is that, compared with a conventional wheel, they are three seconds per mile faster.

The national committee of the RTTC will recommend the introduction of rear disc wheels at its annual meeting in Oxford on December 6, and clubs throughout the country have already started to debate the issue at local level.

But yesterday, Darryl Webster, the RTTC national 25-mile champion for the last four years, spoke against the adoption of disc wheels for time trials on open roads. 'To my mind,' he said, 'they could be dangerous on the road especially if fitted by youngsters, with a risk of accident because a gust of wind could easily affect the steering. And on main roads, no one wants to lose control of their bike.'

In addition, Webster considers the use of disc wheels unfair. 'Disc wheels can cost anything from £160 to £1,000, so it seems that, if their streamlining effect produces faster times, the winners next season will be those who can afford them,' he said.

'To me, competition is about finding the best performer on the day, not to find out what pieces of equipment make you go faster. Disc wheels belong to

track racing, a much more specialized side of the sport and with a far, far fewer riders than the number competing every weekend in time trials.'

Webster added that he thought that the RTTC's testing of the wheels this year to be 'pathetic.' He was speaking from his Walsall home, where he has been unable to ride his bike for seven weeks because of a knee injury. He plans to be in action next year, although he will not be emphasizing time trials.

Another rider not keen to see disc wheels introduced is Ian Cammish, Britain's all-round champion, who also considers that they would give an unfair advantage to those who could afford them. 'I've never ridden that sort of wheel, but if they are permitted next year I suppose I'll have no option but to get some,' he said.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Chargers inflict more misery on suffering Raiders

By Robert Kirley

The San Diego Chargers beat their divisional rivals, the Los Angeles Raiders, 16-14 on the National Football League on Sunday to win their eighth game of the season. The Raiders, spluttering through the worst start of a campaign in club history, failed to score until the last eight minutes.

The defeat was the sixth in succession for the Raiders, whose record of three wins and six defeats is their poorest since 1962. Turnovers and a club record of 187 yards in penalties did the Raiders no favours.

The Chargers' scoring, all of which occurred in the first half, came on a nine-yard pass from Fouts to Winslow and three field goals by Abbott.

Andersen kicked his fourth field goal, a 40-yarder, with less than two minutes remaining to lift the New Orleans Saints past the San Francisco 49ers 26-24. The Saints are off to their best start in the 21-year history of the club.

The Indianapolis Colts, usually one of the league's doormats, crushed the Miami Dolphins 40-21 in Miami. The running backs, Dickerson and Bentley, hammered away at the Miami defense. Dickerson ending up with 154 yards on 30 carries and Bentley gaining 83 yards on 13 attempts. Bentley scored on dashes of 17 and two yards, and Dickerson scored on a 30-yard run.

The Colts dominated after half-time; Miami, who had led 14-0, were limited to 27 offensive plays and did not score after the interval.

Marino, of Miami, completed two touchdown passes and has thrown at least one scoring pass in 29 consecutive games - the second longest streak in league history. Johnny Unitas, who played for the Colts 20 years ago, established the record of 47.

The quarterback, Kosar, passed for 346 yards and two touchdowns and Ellis returned a fumble 27 yards for a touchdown to lead the Cleveland Browns to a 27-21 win over the Buffalo Bills.

Moon completed 18 of 24 passes for 252 yards and two touchdowns to lead the Houston Oilers past the Pittsburgh Steelers 23-3. Houston remained level with Cleveland for first place in the American conference Central division.

White gained 213 yards on 34 carries to help the Los Angeles Rams to a 27-24 win against the St Louis Cardinals. Lansford kicked the winning field goal as time expired.

NFL standings

W L D F A

American conference					
San Diego Chargers	8	4	0	211	186
New York Jets	5	4	0	183	143
Buffalo Bills	4	5	0	164	224
Miami Dolphins	4	5	0	158	211
New England Patriots	4	5	0	168	191
Central division					
San Francisco 49ers	6	3	0	236	131
Houston Oilers	6	3	0	223	183
Pittsburgh Steelers	6	3	0	187	155
Indianapolis Colts	6	3	0	154	185
Western division					
San Diego Chargers	8	1	0	192	155
Seattle Seahawks	5	4	0	232	178
New Orleans Saints	5	4	0	188	238
Los Angeles Raiders	3	6	0	183	185
Kansas City Chiefs	3	6	0	142	265

Eastern conference					
Washington Redskins	7	2	0	224	152
Philadelphia Eagles	5	4	0	208	202
New York Giants	5	4	0	188	238
Philadelphia Eagles	5	4	0	188	238
St Louis Cardinals	5	4	0	208	225

Central division					
Chicago Bears	7	1	0	217	129
Minnesota Vikings	6	2	0	209	182
Tampa Bay Buccaneers	6	2	0	189	188
Detroit Lions	6	2	0	168	250

Western division					
San Francisco 49ers	7	2	0	250	200
New Orleans Saints	5	4	0	227	191
Atlanta Falcons	5	4	0	180	270
New England Patriots	5	4	0	178	218

Does not include last night's game: Pittsburgh Steelers vs Cleveland Browns. NFL standings as of November 16, 1987. (AP Wirephoto)

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TRIATHLON

New era for new sport

The sport of triathlon is at last getting its act together as the new international governing body, the ITI, was formed at a meeting in Amsterdam last weekend (a Special Correspondent writes). Twenty-five countries were represented, including two from the Eastern bloc, Australia, South America, Japan and the United States.

The new president is Yop van Zantvoort, of The Netherlands, with the retiring president of the European Triathlon Union, Con O'Callaghan, of Ireland, being the secretary.

Things look good for the future as 1988 will see two world championships. As would be

expected Hawaii, the birthplace of triathlon, gets the Ironman world championships and Kelowna, Canada, has the new Olympic distance triathlon of 1.5 kilometre swim, 40-kilometre cycle and 10-kilometre run. Poland was awarded the 1989 Olympic distance world championships with Japan getting the Ironman. Argentina made a successful bid for the 1990 Olympic distance world championships.

The Commonwealth Games have recognized the sport as in 1990 at Auckland, New Zealand, triathlon will be introduced under the new Olympic distance.

Court of Appeal

No power to compel overseas witness

In re Tucker (a Bankrupt), Ex parte Tucker (No 1361 of 1985)

Before Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, Lord Justice Dillon and Lord Justice Lloyd.

[Judgment November 16]

A person capable of giving information about a debtor but who was not at any relevant time in England could not be brought for examination before an English court under section 25(1) of the Bankruptcy Act 1914.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal against the decision of Mr Justice Scott (1987) 1 WLR 928 that there was jurisdiction to serve a summons on a British subject living in Belgium. Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was given.

Mr Justice Scott QC and Mr Christopher Brougham for the appellant; Mr Eben Hamilton, QC and Miss Elizabeth Closser for the trustee in bankruptcy.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the appellant was a brother of a bankrupt debtor. The difficulty in the case arose because although the appellant was a British subject who had lived in Belgium for many years.

Until 1962 there had been no power to serve any process in bankruptcy proceedings on any person, other than the debtor himself, who was not in England. In that year rule 86 of the Bankruptcy (Amendment) Rules (SI 1962 No 295) was amended to read:

'Where any process or order of the court... is required by the [1914] Act or these rules to be served on any person who is not in England, the court may order service on him of that process or order...'

nationality in any part of the world.

If that was right on the construction of section 25, it would follow that the amended rule 86 was merely providing machinery for the service to be made by the court, which might well be a county court, to summon any one in the world before it to be examined and produce documents.

Accordingly, by a second submission which Mr Justice Scott accepted, they submitted that the jurisdiction at least extended to any British subject anywhere in the world.

His Lordship noted that the general practice in international law was that the courts of a country had no power to summon before them persons who accepted service or were present within the territory of that country when served with the appropriate process.

There were exceptions under Order 11 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, but even under those rules no general power had been conferred to serve process on British subjects abroad.

Moreover, the English court had never had any general power to serve a subpoena *ad testificandum* or *subpoena duces tecum* out of the jurisdiction on a British subject resident outside the United Kingdom, so as to compel him to come and give evidence in an English court.

Against that background, his Lordship would not have expected section 25(1) to have empowered the English court to hale before it persons who could not be served with the necessary summons within the jurisdiction of the English court.

An alternative procedure was provided under section 122 which could be used to secure the examination of persons resident in Scotland or Ireland within the jurisdiction of the English court before the bankruptcy courts of those countries. That procedure, while taking advantage of the jurisdiction of those courts, also respected those jurisdictions.

25(1) and could not be examined in England. If that was the correct construction of section 25(1) then the jurisdiction of the court could not have been extended by the amendment of rule 86 in 1962 and the orders for service on the appellant out of the jurisdiction must have been void.

During the hearing below an order had been sought for the examination of the appellant in Belgium. Mr Justice Scott had declined to make an order, following *In re Drucker, Ex parte Basden* (No 2) (1902) 2 KB 210 where it had been held that the power of the court under the predecessor of section 25(6) to order examination in places out of England did not extend to places not within the jurisdiction of the British Crown.

His Lordship had no doubt that Parliament did not intend to confer on the bankruptcy court any jurisdiction which could be exercised in breach of the established criteria of international law with regard to comity.

He had no doubt also that the question whether any person

ordered to attend for examination abroad could be compelled or be punished if he refused to come, or cause and would not answer were highly material to the making of any order. So far as the facts of the case could be discerned from the report, *In re Drucker* was right.

In the present case the Belgian court could not compel the appellant to come up for examination and serving a subpoena on him if he refused to come. The English court would have no means of compelling him to attend or of punishing him if he did not attend because, so far from containing the usual penal notice, the summons for his attendance would have had to state that there was no compulsion on him to appear.

There was so little prospect of an order against the appellant under section 25(6) being obeyed or serving a subpoena on him that it would not be a proper exercise of discretion to make such an order.

The Vice-Chancellor and Lord Justice Lloyd agreed.

Solicitors: Roneys; Stephenson Harwood.

Allied Dunbar (Frank Weisinger) Ltd v Frank Weisinger

Before Mr Justice Millett

[Judgment October 27]

The validity of a covenant in restraint of trade entered into between a vendor and a purchaser did not depend upon the concept of proportionality, which was a novel and dangerous doctrine calling upon the court to perform a balancing exercise, not in reality capable of being carried out, and which was best left to the parties to resolve by negotiation.

In order to show that the covenant was reasonable as between parties it was sufficient to show that the covenant was no greater than was reasonably required to protect the legitimate interests of the vendor.

Mr Justice Millett so held in the Chancery Division when making an order upholding a covenant whereby the defendant, Mr Frank Weisinger, had in essence undertaken for a period which was to end two years after he ceased to be a consultant to Allied Dunbar

(Frank Weisinger) Ltd, the plaintiff purchaser, not either directly or indirectly to engage in or be concerned with or interested in (whether on his own account, in partnership or as a director or employee, consultant, shareholder or otherwise) in any business which involved the selling or issuing of life assurance or pension or annuity policies or contracts for the provision of any other financial service or commodity which competed in any way with any of the business which Allied Dunbar plc carried out either directly or through any of its subsidiaries, or with the purchaser's financial management consultants or contracted independent intermediaries.

Mr Charles Flint for the plaintiff; Mr Christopher Carr, QC, for the defendant.

MR JUSTICE MILLETT said that the question to be determined was whether the covenant in question was valid and enforceable or an invalid restraint of trade.

The plaintiff was a wholly owned subsidiary of Allied Dun-

bar Assurance plc which sold a wide range of financial services partly through self-employed associates on a commission basis who placed the greater part of their business with Allied Dunbar.

The defendant was appointed sales associate in March 1974 and was involved in the selling of the direct selling of Allied Dunbar's financial products. He was highly successful and in 1985 his earnings were approximately £194,000. He was mostly engaged in the marketing of life assurance contracts, unit trusts and bonds, personal retirement policies and executive pension schemes and had about 600 clients.

It was difficult for a sales associate to realize goodwill in respect of his practice until 1985 the idea was evolved of associates selling their practices to Allied Dunbar for a capital sum and then to retire permanently. The defendant's practice was bought by the plaintiff under the terms of a contract which incorporated, *inter alia*, the covenant against competition.

After the sale the defendant acted as a sales training consultant to Allied Dunbar but that arrangement was terminated by mutual consent after about 16 months. Following his departure Allied Dunbar were approached by a Mr Roger Levitt who wished to employ him.

The reasonableness of the covenant was to be tested by the principles applicable as between vendor and purchaser rather than by the stricter principles applicable as between employer and employee.

Because the covenant was taken primarily for the protection of the goodwill of the practice the question was whether the restraint was no more than such as was reasonably necessary for that purpose.

It was well established that to protect the goodwill of a business it might be legitimate to require the vendor to retire completely for a period from any form of competing business (see *Morris v Saxelby* (1916) 1 AC 688, 708) subject to the qualification that such must be necessary to protect the goodwill of the business sold by the vendor - not that of the purchaser's own existing business (*British Refrigeration Co v Engineering Co Ltd v Schell* (1921) 2 Ch 563).

Did the covenant go too far? It was obvious that to protect the goodwill of the business it would not be sufficient for the plaintiff to rely on a non-solicitation clause. Also it would not be sufficient for it to rely on a non-dealing clause which did not extend to new clients introduced by former clients or professional firms.

The defendant submitted that the prospect of such potential clients was not part of the goodwill and so was not an interest which it was legitimate for the plaintiff to protect.

His Lordship did not understand that argument. The prospect of obtaining new clients from recommendations and referrals was obviously part of the goodwill. There could be no certainty that the plaintiff could secure such clients for itself but it was entitled to try and to prevent the defendant from denying it the opportunity of succeeding.

The real question was whether, given that the plaintiff had an interest in such potential clients which it was legitimate to protect, the covenant was the appropriate means of protecting it. A non-dealing covenant, particularly one extending to new clients, was difficult to police and enforce.

The defendant had conducted himself with unusual candour and fairness but the purchaser of a business who was paying £386,000 was entitled to protect his investment by a suitably worded covenant which did not depend for its effectiveness on the vendor's honesty and co-operation.

It would be impossible for the plaintiff if it yielded to the defendant's claim to be treated less stringently because of his honesty to impose more onerous terms on others.

It was submitted that there was a need to establish by authority to show that the covenant was reasonable from the point of view of both parties which introduced the now fashionable concept of proportionality.

That was a novel and dangerous doctrine. There was no trace of it in the modern cases and was also contrary to statements in many other cases: see *Morris v Saxelby* at p707 per Lord Parker.

The restraint imposed on the defendant was very severe in extent but relatively short in duration. He was in effect required to take a two-year sabbatical. For a man of 52 earning nearly £200,000 a year and who has received nearly £400,000 for his practice it was hardly a terrifying prospect.

Some would find it positively attractive. But let it be assumed to be a detriment. How was it to be weighed against the protection sought by the plaintiff? The truth was that there was no objective standard by which that could be done. It must be resolved by negotiation.

Solicitors: Nabarro Nathanson; Simmons & Simmons.

Correction

In the report headed 'Validity of power of attorney' (*The Times* November 16) the name of the case, *In re K; In re F*, was inadvertently omitted.

Law Report November 17 1987

Chancery Division

Validity of restraint of trade covenant

Council can recover overpaid housing benefit

Regina v Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, Ex parte Smith

Before Mr Justice Simon Brown

[Judgment November 6]

Where a housing authority recovered from the applicant as overpayment part of the housing benefit he had previously received, regulation 34 of the Housing Benefit Regulations (SI 1985 No 677) must inevitably be construed to have retrospective effect at least to the extent that it enabled the authority to determine that there had been an excess rebate given since some past change of circumstance.

Furthermore, regulation 34(1)(b) and (2)(b) both provided for housing benefit to be altered with effect from the time when the change of circumstances occurred.

Mr Justice Simon Brown so held in the Queen's Bench Division in dismissing an application for judicial review of the decision of the housing authority's review board of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council made on June 6, 1986 confirming the determination of the housing authority that it was entitled to recover from the applicant the excess overpayment of the housing benefit under regulation 34.

The Housing Benefit Regulations 1985 (SI 1985 No 677) provide by section 28: '(1) The secretary of state may by regulations make, with the consent of the Treasury - (a) rate rebate, rent rebate, and allowances determined... by reference to the needs and resources of those persons.

(2) Regulations under subsection (1)... may in particular provide for the enabling any rebate or allowance granted to a person not entitled to it to be recovered by the authority...'

Regulation 34 provides: '(1) If during a benefit period the appropriate authority considers, whether or not following notification of a change of circumstances under regulation 33, that there has been a change of circumstances which will affect a beneficiary's eligibility for a housing benefit or reduce the amount to which he is entitled, that authority shall determine according to the circumstances - (a) - (i) that the amount of the benefit shall be altered in accordance with paragraph (2).

(2) The alteration referred to in paragraph (1)(a)(i) shall be made so as to take effect from the time when the change of circumstances is a change in income, other than income by way of the future period beginning with the sixth day before, and ending with the sixth day after, the change of circumstances occurred.'

Mr David Watkinson for the applicant; Mr Patrick Hamlin for the respondent.

The benefit period for that award was February 18, 1985 to October 14, 1985. During that period the applicant's wage was increased to £98 a week, the increase being back-dated to cover the whole period of his employment.

The issue related to the amount to which the applicant was entitled while he received it but, to which the authority contended that he became disentitled upon the back-dating of his subsequent wage increase.

The applicant contended that to construe and apply regulation 34 as the authority sought to do was not merely to give it a meaning other than that suggested by its express language but to prospectively rather than retrospectively, relying on the future tense, but also to offend against the principle of retrospectivity.

His Lordship said that on any view some degree of retrospectivity was built into regulation 34 so that its use of the future tense was not inconsistent with the argument in the applicant's favour. Why, therefore, should there be any limitation read into the authority's power to back-date alterations in housing entitlement to accord with what appeared to it fair and appropriate following a change of income other than by way of rent?

The language of paragraph 2(a) was wide and apparently unlimited: the alteration might take effect 'from such time and from such period' as was considered appropriate to reflect the change of circumstances. That was in stark contrast to paragraph 2(b)'s mandatory

back-dating of adjustments following other changes of circumstances to the actual time when they occurred.

His Lordship said that the principle of retrospectivity did not arise in such circumstances. It was not as if a provision for retrospective adjustment was suddenly introduced into an existing benefit scheme whereby a beneficiary became subject to a risk of repayment which had not previously existed.

Regulation 34 could not be applied unfairly to deprive a beneficiary of established rights. The scheme of regulation 34, properly understood, recognized that a beneficiary might indeed be entitled to sums during part of a benefit period to which he later became disentitled when circumstances changed sufficiently in his favour.

The enabling power conferred by section 28 of the 1982 Act plainly admitted of the back-dating of adjustments when that was required either because mistakes were discovered (regulation 56) or because of a change of circumstances (regulation 34).

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